Hafa Adai!

US insular areas may now apply for DOI grants. PAGE 3
Ex-employee seeks over $20M judgment against IPI. PAGE 5

$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXII, Issue No. 214

www.saipantribune.com THURSDAY OCTOBER 27, 2022 www.facebook.com/saipantribune

First IPI auction nets over $400K

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The first auction of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's gaming items netted over $400,000 and receiver Clear Management Ltd., has officially filed a motion asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to confirm the sales made from the auction.

Michael White, on behalf of Clear Management, filed yesterday an official report and account of sale of all the items that were sold at the Oct. 7 IPI gaming equipment auction.

See IPI on Page 4

SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres gestures as he explains yesterday the importance of signing into law a bill that will establish the Behavioral Health Professional Scholarship in the CNMI. Also in the photo, from left to right, are Sen. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan (R-Saipan), Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota). FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Story on Page 2

Gas down 10 cents

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI was met with another rollback in fuel prices yesterday afternoon, which was a great surprise for those who pulled up to local gas stations just in time.

At around 4pm yesterday afternoon, Mobil Oil Marianas surprised individuals

See GAS on Page 4

6 tabulating machines are calibrated

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Igitol

All six tabulating machines that will be used in the Nov. 8 general elections have already been calibrated by a technician from Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software, according to

See MACHINES on Page 4

In this August 2016 file photo, Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software senior field service technician William McCullough services one of five counting machines used during the November 2016 elections by the Commonwealth Election Commission at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. FERDIE DE LA TORRE

US territory reps hope Congress will remedy longstanding data gaps

» The federal government invests far less in funding data collection for communities in US territories than residents of US states.

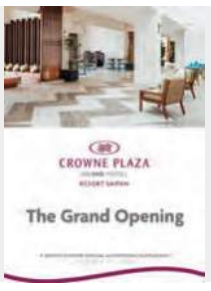
By ANITA HOFSCHNEIDER
HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT

Editor's Note: Republished with permission. Originally published on https://www.civilbeat.org/2022/10/us-territory-reps-hope-congress-will-remedy-long-standing-data-gaps/

Like many other parts of the U.S., the coronavirus pandemic brought the Northern Mariana Islands' economy

See TERRITORY on Page 4

INSIDE



SUPPLEMENT
Today's issue comes with a supplement on the opening of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

PAGE 9

OFF THE WALL
A Massachusetts woman released a swarm of bees on sheriff's deputies as they tried to evict her.

PAGE 30

LIFE & STYLE
Adidas has ended a partnership with the artist known as Ye over his antisemitic remarks.

PAGE 31

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, sitting in the middle, and Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), to the governor's left, pose for a group photo with officials and staff from the Community Guidance Center, Public Health, Northern Marianas College, and CNMI Scholarship Office. Also in the photo, sitting from left to right, are Sens. Francisco Q. Cruz, Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan, and Victor B. Hocog.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

NEW
Melts
CHEESY CRISPY LOADED
Product availability, combinability of discounts and specials, prices, participation, delivery areas and charges, and minimum purchase requirements for delivery may vary. Additional charge for extra dipping sauce, no substitutions.
CALL FOR DELIVERY & CARRYOUT ON
SAIPAN (670) 235-9333
Pizza Hut
MEDIUM 2-TOPPING
2 Pizzas
$10.99 EACH
Additional charge for extra toppings, Pan, and extra cheese. Exclusions apply. Must buy 2 for offer pricing.
16" EXTRA LARGE
Classic NEW YORK PIZZA
A Saipan Favorite
NEW NAME, STILL A GREAT VALUE.
$13.99 1 TOPPING
CARRYOUT DEAL
Price higher for delivery. Additional charge for extra cheese and toppings.
2 LARGE SPECIALTY PIZZAS
$17.99 EACH MUST PURCHASE TWO LARGE PIZZAS
Additional charge for Pan, Stuffed Crust, extra cheese and toppings.
LIMITED TIME OFFERS. Not available in some locations. Product availability, combinability of discounts and specials, delivery areas and charges may vary. Limited time only. Available at the participating Pizza Hut® Restaurant on Saipan. Products not exactly as shown. Delivery charges apply and do not include a gratuity. $15 minimum order for delivery. Limited delivery area. The Pizza Hut name, logos, and related marks are trademarks of Pizza Hut, LLC. © 2022 Pizza Hut, LLC

New law creates five behavioral health professional scholarships

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law yesterday a bill that will establish a Behavioral Health Professional Scholarship in the CNMI to address the shortage of behavioral health professionals among U.S. citizens or permanent residents in the Commonwealth.

Behavioral health professionals refer to psychologists, psychiatrists, therapists, counselors, social workers, and substance abuse professionals.

Torres signed Senate Bill 22-05, SS1, HD1, into Public Law 22-24, in front of Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who is the author of the legislation.

The governor said this bill creates behavioral health professional scholarship for five eligible students who aspire to obtain a master's degree in a behavioral health field.

He said $10,000 shall be allocated for each master's degree scholarship per annum per student enrolled in a graduate program at a college or university in the U.S. or its territories or at any Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education partner institution for a period of up to two years.

In exchange, scholarship recipients must return to the CNMI and work at the Commonwealth Health Center, Community Guidance Center, Tinian Health Center, Rota Health Center, or in the Public School System for a certain period of years.

Under the bill, the CNMI Scholarship Office shall administer the behavioral health professional scholarship.

Also present at the signing were Sens. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan (R-Saipan), Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota), and Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian).

Among those who attended the signing of the bill into law were Northern Marianas College president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Commonwealth Guidance Center director Joseph Kevin Villagomez, clinical psychologist Dr. Glenda George, and other CGC, public health, and NMI Scholarship officials and staff.

Hofschneider said this legislation is a work product not just by the Senate or himself, but by a lot of people from CGC, Scholarship Office, and school counselors.

Hofschneider first introduced similar legislation in September 2020. He then introduced Senate Bill 22-05 in January 2021. The House of Representatives passed it on Aug. 29, 2022, with some amendments. The Senate accepted the amendments and passed the legislation on Sept. 23, 2022.

Hofschneider said he got a lot of guidance from Dennis Mohatt, who is the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education vice president for behavioral health.

He said what really inspired him to push this legislation is when he saw the growing need for behavioral health professionals not only in the U.S. mainland, but especially on the islands.

"…Although you guys are there already doing it and you're doing all your best, there's always that crack in the service," he said.

Hofschneider said he is grateful that they got the support of CGC, public health, and NMC, and also from his colleagues in the Senate and House.

"…The idea is to build capacity in the CNMI," he said.

The president also thanked Torres for considering this legislation because the financial side of things is a legitimate concern.

Deleon Guerrero said that, as Sablan and Hocog earlier pointed out, mental health used to be a dirty secret. "Growing up, like when someone says, 'Oh, that guy's mental,' it was such a negative condemnation," Deleon Guerrero said. He said he believes that the COVID-19 pandemic and the people's experience with strong storms have awakened their awareness to this important issue.

At a practical level, Deleon Guerrero said, this legislation helps the CNMI meet the needs of the community when it comes to mental health.

He said on a symbolic level, by signing this legislation into law, the governor elevates the value of mental health.

"And that is critically important for our community so that when we run into someone, and they feel ashamed, maybe this will lift that shame, and give people the empowerment that they need to seek the help," he said.

US insular areas may now apply for DOI's TAP grants

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs is pleased to announce that the applications for fiscal year 2023 funding under the office's Technical Assistance Programs can now be submitted to www.Grants.Gov.

The announcements for funding for Technical Assistance, Maintenance Assistance, Coral Reef and Natural Resources (including Invasive Species projects), and Brown Tree Snake are open with a deadline of March 17, 2023. The announcements for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Mined-Lands projects and for the Inflation Reduction Act Climate Change Technical Assistance program are also open with a deadline of Jan. 31, 2023. It is highly recommended that applications be submitted as early as possible.

"We look forward to supporting as many applications from the Insular Areas as possible and encourage all to apply as early as possible for this round of Fiscal Year 2023 funding," said assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor. "Applications that address climate change, energy, and natural resources will be considered among the top priorities."

TAP, MAP, and CRNR funding is made available for short-term projects intended to meet the needs of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as the freely associated states—the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. BIL funds are available only to support the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. IRA funds are available to the local governments of these same territories and Puerto Rico.

Other financial assistance programs provided through OIA such as the Energizing Island Communities should be announced later this year or early next year.

Applications for TAP, MAP, CRNR, BTS, and BIL will be considered from Insular Areas government entities, educational institutions, or nonprofit organizations whose grant proposals directly benefit the four U.S. territories, including Puerto Rico in the case of IRA funding, or the three freely associated states. More information about financial grant assistance may be found on the OIA website along with the specific TAP 2023 instructions.

For more information and to apply, visit www.grants.

See US on Next Page

Prayer to the HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit thou who makes me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. AMEN.

(A person must pray this for three consecutive days without stating his/her wish. After the third day, the wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this as soon as your favor has been granted)

Prayer offered by: FPM

TRIPLE J
QUALITY USED CAR
BLOWOUT
INVENTORY CLEARANCE
SALE STARTS NOW!
GET :30 SECONDS IN OUR MONEY MACHINE
WITH EVERY NEW OR USED VEHICLE PURCHASE
get a chance WIN UP TO $2,000!
LIMITED TIME ONLY!
2020 JEEP GLADIATOR SPORT
SALE PRICE $59,995
• 25,128 MILES • STK: 16P436A
2018 HONDA CIVIC TYPE-R
SOLD
SALE PRICE $44,995
• MILES: 18,718 • KBB: $45,103 • STK: 18P486
2013 TOYOTA FJ CRUISER 4WD
SALE PRICE $29,995
• MILES: 85,405 • KBB: $33,890 • STK: 13P359
2018 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED
SALE PRICE $39,995
• MILES: 7,938 • KBB: $41,378 • STK: 18P478
STOCK # YEAR MODEL KBB SALE PRICE
22H183A 2011 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE $15,475 $9,995
16P433 2016 ELANTRA SE $15,667 $14,995
17P334A 2017 MAZDA3 SPORT SOLD $17,937 $13,995
16P360 2016 MAZDA CX-5 TOURING $21,604 $16,995
15P348 2015 MAZDA CX-9 TOURING $21,604 $16,995
14P342A 2016 TOYOTA COROLLA SE $18,277 $16,995
17P365 2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL $19,752 $17,995
16P487A 2017 KIA SPORTAGE LX $19,269 $17,995
17P422 2017 KIA SPORTAGE LX $18,843 $17,995
STOCK # YEAR MODEL KBB SALE PRICE
17P505 2017 BUICK VERANO $18,265 $17,995
17P370 2017 TOYOTA COROLLA SE $20,726 $18,995
18P393 2018 NISSAN ROGUE SV $22,661 $19,995
19P488A 2016 NISSAN FRONTIER SOLD $24,900 $23,995
22H175A 2016 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SPORT $35,480 $27,995
15P498 2015 SCION FRS COUPE N/A $28,995
16P501 2016 TOYOTA TACOMA SR5 $43,154 $42,995
21H096D 2021 HYUNDAI PALISADE LIMITED $55,838 $43,995
21P502 2021 TOYOTA TACOMA SR5 $52,486 $49,995
2016 MAZDA MAZDA6 GT
SALE PRICE $17,995
• MILES: 31,093 • KBB: $18,363 • STK: 22H195A
2016 SCION IM HATCHBACK
SALE PRICE $19,995
• MILES: 43,939 • KBB: $20,255 • STK: 22H009A
2015 MAZDA MAZDA5
SALE PRICE $13,995
• MILES: 79,899 • KBB: $14,455 • STK: 22M126A
Customers First
TRIPLE J
TRIPLE J MOTORS
www.TRIPLEJSAIPAN.com
Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
OPEN Mon-Fri: 8am to 6pm • Sat: 8am to 5pm
Sales Office: 234-7133 • Parts & Service: 322-7134
autosales@triplejsaipan.com
*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is $2,500.

K-pop concert canceled

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The free K-pop concert that was supposed to be held this Friday, Oct. 28 and Saturday, Oct. 29, has been cancelled.

Organizers of the event, called "2022 Saipan Tourism Fanival," regretfully announced that it has canceled the concert due to visa issues.

The event organizers on Saipan—Hong Kyun Kim, president of P&A Corp.; Ho Joon "Jonathan" Joo, P&A Corp.; and Hyuk Sang Kwon of Winners Residence—learned that the artists arrived yesterday afternoon and were held at the airport.

They were not able to get out of the airport without the proper visas, in this case artist visas, according to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection; the group only had tourist visas.

Korean citizens are usually allowed to enter the U.S. visa-free, but this only applies to tourists.

Event organizers have already prepared the artists' accommodations and have been preparing for their arrival and were already on the concert stage preparations.

With the popularity of Korean music and entertainment, the organizing group had hoped that the concert will be the "beginning of a mutual cultural exchange between Korea and Saipan, promoting mutual understanding and trust between Korea and the U.S."

The event was in collaboration with Saipan organizers Kim, Joo, Kwon. along with the Saipan Mayor's Office and organizers and sponsors from South Korea.

As of press time, the artists are in the airport awaiting their flight back to South Korea. There are currently no plans yet if the concert will be rescheduled.

TERRITORY

From Page 1

skidding to a halt. Flights carrying tourists stopped, hotels closed and thousands were out of work. But when the federal government asked Vicky Benavente, the head of the territory's Labor Department, to estimate how many workers were unemployed, she wasn't sure.

Benavente

That's partially because unlike U.S. states, the federal government doesn't collect annual unemployment data from the Northern Marianas and other territories. Instead, the local government serving a population of about 47,000 conducts periodic surveys to figure out how many people are out of jobs. The last one was completed in 2017.

The only way Benavente could estimate local job loss was by noting that the number of local employers submitting quarterly surveys fell from 1,000 to 600 in 2020—a 40% drop in active businesses.

"This is one lesson we learned," Benavente said last week. "Data is so critical for justifying our asks to the federal government."

Data collection could become easier under a bill introduced in Congress this summer by Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Democrat from Arizona, and the non-voting delegates representing the U.S. island territories.

The measure known as the Territories Statistics Collection Equity Act, would ask the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to spend a year coming up with a plan to ensure federal data collection for U.S. territories is on par with states and fully implement its plan within four years.

"We lag far behind the states in terms of priority, availability, timeliness and type of data collected," said Rep. Gregorio Kilili Sablan from the Northern Mariana Islands, one of the measure's co-sponsors.

Sablan said the biggest challenges to getting more federal data collection in the commonwealth are lack of funding and lack of interest in U.S. territories. The proposed bill would include estimating how much additional data collection would cost.

Neil Weare, executive director of Equally American, a nonprofit that advocates for civil rights for residents of U.S. territories, said it may be a hard and expensive undertaking, but it's one that residents of remote U.S. states benefit from already.

"Is it harder to collect data in the Aleutian islands in Alaska than it is in Rota?" he asked, referring to an island in the Northern Marianas. "I don't think so."

Less Data, Less Frequently

Robert Underwood, a former U.S. congressman from Guam who now serves on President Joe Biden's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, thinks the bill is a good first step but the process could be accomplished faster with a directive from the Office of Management and Budget or a presidential executive order.

"I think it is a great idea, but the timeline is a little long," Underwood said. He noted territories like Guam that conduct their own local surveys may ask for more detail than federal surveys but said inclusion in the federal data collection would lighten the burden on local agencies.

Weare said Puerto Rico's American Community Survey stems from an executive order under former President George H.W. Bush.

Sablan

Esther Kiaaina previously worked with Underwood in Congress to push for the Office of Management and Budget's directive to disaggregate data about Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. The former Interior Department official and current Honolulu City Council member said ensuring dedicated funding to federal agencies to collect the data would be key.

Otherwise, federal agencies might seek to pull funding from the Insular Affairs division to fulfill requirements related to territories, which would result in less money for the island communities themselves, she said.

But while funding may still be an open question, there's no question the data gaps that the bill would address are long-standing. For one thing, all the island territories except Puerto Rico are excluded from the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

"They miss out on incredibly important, timely information about demographics, the economy, housing, all of these things are incredibly important to policy decision-making," said Jae June Lee, policy and data analyst at the Georgetown Center on Poverty's Inequality, Economic Security and Opportunity Initiative.

That also means that territories aren't included when national population estimates are routinely calculated, implying that they don't reflect who we are as a country, Lee said.

All U.S territories are included in the decennial Census. On Thursday, the Census released its 2020 demographic profiles for American Samoa, the Northern Marianas, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

But even then the territories aren't on the same footing as states, said Lee, who notes that demographic profiles for these smaller island communities are issued later in the year compared with the national census data. He said data from those four U.S. territories also aren't subject to the same data integrity analyses as data from states, making it tough to tell whether the communities are undercounted or overcounted.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

GAS

From Page 1

at the pump with a rollback so soon after the first increase seen in months last Oct. 11.

With the rollback, Mobil now charges $5.16 per gallon of its Extra fuel from $5.26. Mobil's' Supreme fuel also went down from $5.71 per gallon to $5.61 while diesel remains the same at $6.53 per gallon.

As of 6pm press time, Shell Marianas had yet to lower its prices but, as seen before, the oil company is expected to lower its prices today.

According to a 27-year-old woman who pulled up to the pump just in time for Mobil employees to finish changing their prices, she said she was so excited that she decided to splurge on a full tank.

"I was planning to just put in $25 or so just to bring my tank up to a little past half. Now, since I know from last time that at $5.16 per gallon, I can spend around $35 to get my tank to full from just below the half tank mark, I'm going to splurge," she said.

Another man who pulled up soon after said it's always a welcome surprise to see a rollback in fuel prices.

"It's always welcomed. I mean it's a few cents, but it's some type of relief. I'm always happily surprised when I see gas has rolled back and even though I don't really need to get gas right now, I might as well because you never know when it'll increase again," he said.

For months, the CNMI saw a string of rollbacks but that streak was broken last Oct. 11 with a 10-cent increase when local oil companies raised prices from $5.16 to $5.26 per gallon of regular fuel.

Prior to the unexpected increase, local oil companies were hitting the community with rollback after rollback in gas prices.

IPI

From Page 1

Following the conclusion of the Oct. 7 auction, Clear Management received bids from all over the world, including the U.S.A., Europe, India, Australia, South Korea, and Saipan, White said.

The total of the high bids realized from the sale was $410,000.

Each of the successful bidders has executed a memorandum of sale, and has provided evidence of the transfer of an amount equal to 15% of its successful bids to The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Escrow Trust Account.

All World Consulting submitted bids on 116 card shufflers. It was the successful bidder on 78 card shufflers. The total amount of its successful bids was $270,000.

MP Holdings LLC submitted bids on 60 card shufflers but none of its bids were successful.

IPG International submitted bids on 48 card shufflers and three Chipstars. It was the high bidder on 20 card shufflers. The total amount of its successful bids was $50,000.

Gaming Supplies, LLC, submitted bids on 116 card shufflers and three Chipstars. It was the high bidder on four shufflers and three Chipstars. The total amount of its successful bids was $91,000.

Grand Hyatt Jeju submitted bids on 14 card shufflers. It was the high bidder on all 14. The total amount of its successful bids was $65,300.

In addition to the report and account of sale, White submitted a motion asking the court to confirm the over $400,000 sale of IPI's gaming equipment.

White stated in his motion that his client is asking the court to authorize Clear Management to collect the remaining 85% of the bids so bills of sale can be executed to the successful bidders.

"Clear Management hereby respectfully moves that this honorable court enter an order approving the report and account of sale, and authorize and direct Clear Management, Ltd. to collect the remaining 85% of the successful bids and to execute appropriate bills of sale to the successful bidders. All proceeds of sale will be maintained in the Escrow Trust Account, pending the further orders of the court," said White.

In light of the circumstances, Clear Management believes that the high bids reported are reasonable, and should be accepted by the court, he added.

"The bid ranges received have led Clear Management to believe that the bids are reasonable, since there was not a significant difference from the highest to the lowest bids. All proceeds of sale will be maintained in the Escrow Trust Account, pending the further orders of the court," he said.

Last Oct. 26, 2021, the District Court entered an order authorizing and directing Clear Management, Ltd., to sell certain gaming equipment of IPI.

Pursuant to that order, Clear Management conducted a sale of a portion of the equipment on Oct. 7, 2022.

Clear Management promoted the auction through online gaming magazines and daily briefing.

MACHINES

From Page 1

the Commonwealth Election Commission Tuesday.

CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol said the technician came last Oct. 13 and serviced the tabulating machines to make sure they're all calibrated properly.

"They're all good for election day," said Igitol, referring to the two big scanner/tabulating machines and four smaller scanner/tabulating machines.

She said the technician worked in the afternoon and came back the following morning to make sure all the machines were running well.

"[The technician] made sure that all the rollers that pull in the ballots are working right. He cleaned it. He calibrated it," Igitol said.

She said another site support staff from ES&S will be coming either on Nov. 4 or 7 for the tabulation of ballots on Nov. 8 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The executive director said the four big machines will be used to tabulate the ballots at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, while the four smaller machines will be used only on Tinian and Rota to conduct the preliminary count of votes on those islands.

US

From Page 3

gov and use CFDA# 15.875. While the deadlines listed are Jan. 31, and March 17, 2023, it is highly recommended that applications be submitted as early as possible. Applications will be reviewed once OIA receives full-year appropriations. Applications related to public safety and emergencies may be reviewed early, prior to the deadline. All funding decisions will be finalized by Sept. 30, 2023. ***(DOI)***

Ex-employee seeks over $20M judgment against IPI

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC employee who had sued IPI for allegedly terminating him for complaining about IPI's alleged discriminatory hiring practices is now asking the court to grant him a default judgment of over $20 million.

Joshua Gray, who previously sued IPI on the grounds of wrongful termination in violation of public policy (immigration violations), wrongful failure to hire, and intentional infliction of emotional distress, has filed a motion for default judgment in the amount of over $20 million.

Gray, through his lawyer, Bruce Berline, claims that he is entitled to compensatory damages of back pay, front pay, lost future earnings/reputational harm, emotional distress, punitive damages, pre- and post-judgment interest, and attorneys' fees and costs.

"[Gray] requests back pay damages of $464,083.00, front pay damages of $1,475,685.00, [and] emotional distress damages of $2 million," he said.

In addition, Berline asks that the court grant his client punitive damages that is seven times the amount of compensatory damages he is asking for. That's roughly $27,578,376.

Berline said the damages sought against IPI is necessary to hopefully deter the company from further practicing racial and ethnic discrimination in the future.

"Anything short of [this] simply will not convey to IPI that racial discrimination is an 'especially reprehensible harm' and that freedom from such discrimination is 'a fundamental human right' that this country fought its bloodiest war to protect. Plaintiff suggests that a punitive damage award in the ratio of 7:1 is the minimum required to at least have some hope of deterring future illegal behavior by IPI," said Berline.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona is set to hear the motion for default judgment against IPI on Nov. 17 at 11am.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW23-ITB NO. 42300003

SUBMISSION DATE: November 21, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Proposed FinaSisu Lane Road & Drainage Improvement"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **October 20, 2022** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 07, 2022**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 16, 2022** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR,
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 I www.marianas.edu

AGROFORESTRY CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR NMC-CREES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
NMC RFP 23-001

Northern Marianas College, Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services (CREES) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Agroforestry Consultant Services. The specifications and Scope of Work package may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Friday, October 21, 2022 between the hours of 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Preproposal meeting: 09:00am – 10:00am, November 7, 2022 CNMI via Zoom meeting room. Attendance is strongly recommended.

Proposal Packages: Due no later than 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 21, 2022, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. P, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, **"Local Business Preference"**, as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local vendors in this procurement.

Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via email to Christina Cruz (christina.cruz@marianas.edu).

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through the USDA-NIFA authorized under the Smith Lever Act, Section 3b & 3c, Award NO. NI19SLBCXXXXG055.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

/s/ Christina Cruz
NMC Procurement & Property Management Office

Application Deadline: December 9, 2022

CONGRESSMAN GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
Serving the People of the Northern Mariana Islands

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY
CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATIONS

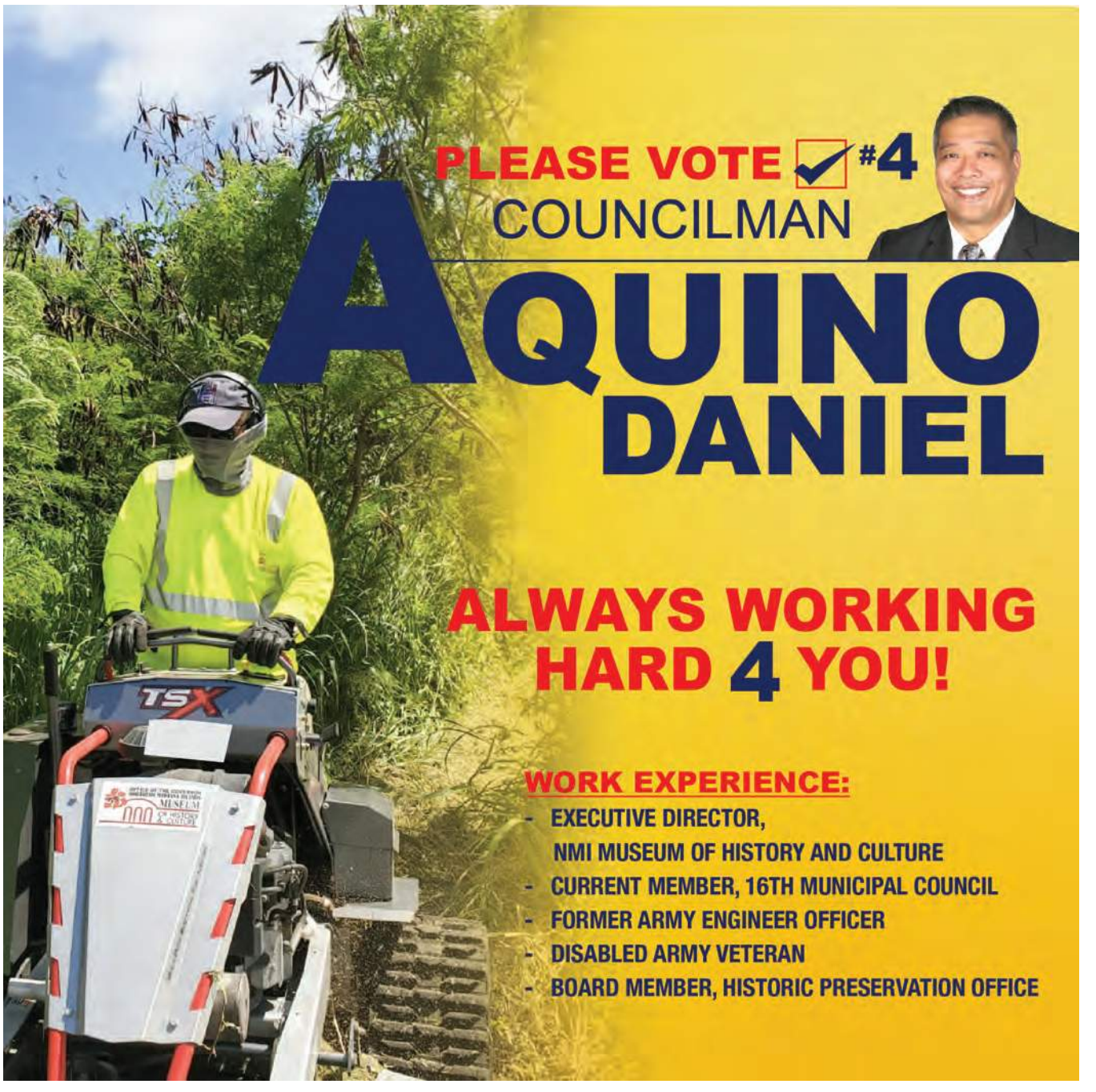
*Opportunities to learn and serve at a U.S. Service Academy include a **fully funded undergraduate education** and a **commission as a military officer** upon graduation.*

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
U.S. Military Academy
U.S. Air Force Academy
U.S. Naval Academy

Eligibility: U.S. citizen, unmarried with no dependents, age 17-23, high school senior or graduate, and must meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academies

To access the nomination application or for more information, visit sablan.house.gov or call 670-323-2647/8 on Saipan, 433-2647 on Tinian, or 532-2647 on Rota.

Paid for by official funds authorized by the House of Representatives.



Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXII, Issue No. 214
Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

WHY SHOULD I VOTE? ONE VOTE WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
IT MIGHT THIS TIME.
POLLS SHOW DEAD HEAT
LAS VEGAS SUN 2022
MIKE SMITH
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/NAS

EDITORIAL

Drills, quick response minimized tragedy. But is this where America should be?

The active-shooter scene this time wasn't from a school in a faraway town like Uvalde, Texas, but rather right down the street at the Central Visual & Performing Arts dual high school complex right across the street from Tower Grove Park. The scenes of ambulance gurneys carting away victims and panicked students and adults running for cover brought home, once again, the painful reality of life in America today: Lawmakers continue doing their best to ensure that as many people as possible have access to guns, leaving teachers and children to deal with the aftermath when those guns fall into the wrong hands.

It is a certainty that this gun terror will continue until those in power come to grips with the bloody consequences of their decisions. Republican lawmakers have turned American schools and communities into killing fields. The only things that minimized the bloodshed in south St. Louis were the excellent preparation of students and teachers about where to go and what to do, and the rapid response of law enforcers—who quickly engaged and neutralized the shooter.

The gunman was slowed by the fact that the school was locked. Seven security workers were on duty at the time, quickly joined by a swarm of local and federal law enforcers. There was an exchange of what one student's recording sounded like heavy semi-automatic gunfire. Officers appear to have reacted courageously and unhesitatingly—in stark contrast to the cowardly reluctance in Uvalde that certainly helped elevate that casualty toll.

Teachers and students worked quickly to hide and block classroom doors after heeding the code word—"Miles Davis"—over the school intercom. Some students at first shrugged it off as just another drill, but the sound of gunshots and the gunman reportedly saying, "You are all going to (expletive) die," brought home the deadly serious reality.

There is, of course, an alternative to school lockdowns and frightening active-shooter drills. That alternative is political: Convincing Republican lawmakers that the Second Amendment does not take priority over children's (or adults') lives.

Republican Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri quickly tweeted out Monday that the news was "devastating," and "we stand ready to offer all assistance possible." Local officials should take him up on that offer and ask Hawley to assist by leading Senate Republicans away from blind insistence on unbridled gun rights to something that more closely resembles sanity.

But Hawley, Gov. Mike Parson, state Attorney General

See DRILLS on Next Page

The forgotten power of character education

By KENDRA THOMAS
THE FULCRUM

There is a growing consensus among pediatricians, psychologists and educators that the youth are not OK. But the absence of mental illness is not the same as well-being. The real goal should be to raise youth with lives of purpose, internalized values and strong relationships, what psychologists call "flourishing." Values of honor, service and self-sacrifice are inspirational and should be a part of a solution against youth languishing. Revive the dialogue around character education.

Character education systematically teaches ethics and virtuous habits such as gratitude, honesty and social responsibility. Over the past 30 years, research on moral development grew much faster than other psychology subdisciplines and became more diverse and interdisciplinary. When school-based character education is prioritized, it improves conflict resolution and moral reasoning and strengthens relationships. In sum, researchers know more than ever about evidence-based practices in character education. Yet policies and curricula emphasize intellectual and performance virtues (e.g., curiosity and determination) over moral or civic ones (e.g., honesty and service).

The Department of Education hasn't mentioned the words "character," "virtue," "moral" or even "justice" in the last two strategic plans, covering 2014 through 2022. The last mention of character in a Department of Education strategic plan was the one from 2002-07, in which one of the six goals was to "develop safe schools and strong character."

Character education isn't prioritized. The Department of Education's own "What Works" clearinghouse hasn't tracked character interventions for 15 years. A current search for character or moral development in that database will find outdated reports and broken links or sources focused on "grit" and "growth mindset."

Browsing through the standards across 50 states, few states explicitly prioritize virtues beyond self-interest. Researchers have called this avoidance moral phobia—when administrators and policymakers carefully side-step ethical language and pivot to social skills. State legislatures have paid increasing attention to "personal success skills," "soft skills" or "non-cognitive skills."

Developing social and emotional competence is indispensable in schools. It is also insufficient. If children are taught soft skills because it will make them feel better or be smarter, they won't have the moral fiber necessary for complex ethical decision-making.

Rugged individualism is at its worst when it can only endorse self-centered virtues such as curiosity and confidence.

Perhaps this shift is rooted in a pseudo-psychology assumption that low confidence and self-esteem are the roots of all evil – they are not. Or maybe the shift away from character education is because schools are not supposed to impose personal moral values. Trying to remove morality from education is a fool's errand. Children are always learning.

It is possible to develop social skills without fostering moral values of care and justice, and that's bad news.

- Bullies can be confident.
- Corrupt politicians can have grit.
- Serial killers can have a growth mindset.
- But raising socially competent a--holes is not education's goal; at least it shouldn't be.

Character education in the United States had a renaissance in the 1990s with the Aspen Declaration, a resolution created by scholars, ethicists and educators because people "do not automatically develop good moral character."

Teaching character may address many of the problems experienced today. I work with a team of researchers developing school interventions across 60 Brazilian schools. Our work shows that socio-emotional learning is a powerful precursor to the virtue of social responsibility. Children who endorsed higher levels of social responsibility were the least likely to behave aggressively towards their peers. This likely happens because the intervention fosters stronger school relationships and indirectly promotes a more fair and just environment.

A values-based intervention among children in Canadian schools using moral virtues, role models and community partnerships had faster declines in aggressive behaviors compared to children from control schools. That intervention systematically integrated community leaders, students, parents and educators, so the children had a unified language around virtues. Other interventions have found that increased time spent in small-group discussions around moral values improves adolescent moral reasoning compared with control groups.

Character education improves integrity, compassion, educational attainment and problem-solving. It also reduces anti-social behavior, a growing public concern.

Experts know how to implement and assess character education; it can be integrated into the school curriculum. Social studies classrooms can be a springboard to discuss harm, justice and social norms. STEM disciplines can motivate truth-seeking and intellectual humility.

This isn't to say that character education gets no attention. Many individual teachers put much thought and effort into developing the moral character of their students. Character.org, a nonpartisan organization of educators, researchers, and business

See EDUCATION on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Where have all the English majors gone?

By NICHOLAS GOLDBERG
Los Angeles Times

Nicholas Goldberg is an associat e editor and Op-Ed columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

It's not exactly news that the humanities are in decline and college students are turning toward skills-based and career-focused fields of study.

In fact, 2021 was the ninth straight year, according to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, that the number of students graduating with a major in the humanities has fallen. According to federal data, the number of English majors dropped by a third from 2011 to 2021, and students majoring in religion, area studies and history fell even more.

Academic fields such as anthropology, sociology and philosophy are also shrinking. But nursing, criminology and public administration keep growing. The number of computer science and engineering majors has exploded.

Dozens of private colleges have gone out of business entirely over the last 10 years, partly because of reduced demand for a traditional liberal arts education. At others, departments have been cut back, merged or even closed.

We're living in an increasingly STEM-dominated, tech-centric, employment-focused world.

I was reminded of that when I recently read an article that mentioned the rise of "supply chain management" courses at small liberal arts schools. I admit I found it disturbing.

I wasn't even aware there was such a field of study. But it seems that it's an increasingly popular offering designed to ensure that students leave school able to find work in the logistics sector. They learn about getting products from where they are produced to the consumers who need them through a complex of factories, warehouses, transport vehicles and such like.

Offering courses in supply chain management is part of academia's trend toward promising undergraduates a "return on investment."

And that makes a certain amount of sense. When private college costs as much as $60,000 a year, it's no surprise that students (and their parents) think of it as an investment for which they should expect to get back something tangible and valuable. A 2021 study showed that two-thirds of college students believe higher education is not worth what they're paying for it.

Students often come out of school burdened with debt and anxious about their financial futures, and they've all heard stories about Uber drivers who know Greek and Latin and baristas with PhDs in sociology. Of course they want to be employable.

But I can't help it—the heightened focus on jobs worries me. You don't have to be a snooty ivory tower philosophy professor or an entitled, dilettante German literature student to see that supply chain management is not an academic discipline, at least not in the sense that most of us who grew up in previous generations are used to.

If we all study engineering, nursing, computer science and supply chain management and allow the humanities and social sciences to fade away, something terribly important will be lost, for students and society both.

Particularly at a time of demagogic populism and close-minded partisanship, when civic discourse is being coarsened and dumbed-down.

The liberal arts matter because how we think matters as much as our acquisition of job skills.

In 2015, Wisconsin's Republican Gov. Scott Walker stumbled gracelessly into this debate when he tried to alter the mission statement of the University of Wisconsin by deleting the words that called on the university to "search for truth" and "improve the human condition." In their place he wanted to substitute words calling on the university to "meet the state's workforce needs."

The backlash was loud and Walker was unsuccessful. But he'd made his point.

The way I see it, we need to build a productive, prepared American workforce and hone its skills for the 21st century. But we also need to remember that the humanities and social sciences—history, literature, philosophy, sociology, political science and the rest—are crucial to an educated, thoughtful citizenry.

A liberal arts education expands imaginations, fires up curiosity and encourages open-mindedness. Through writing and argument and cultural studies, it encourages critical thinking. It emphasizes nuance and complexity. It rewards intellectual honesty.

(I should perhaps note that it does all those things when it is working properly. Unfortunately, it seems that open-mindedness and robust debate are less prized on campuses these days than they were in the past.)

At their best, the humanities and social sciences help students (and the adults they become) maneuver through the complications and contradictions of the world. Learning languages, studying other countries, remembering history—they broaden perspectives and help us transcend global differences.

It shouldn't be an either-or choice. Engineers and nurses can be trained in their fields and also educated in the liberal arts, just as English majors can come out of school with skills to help them find jobs. Studies show that many employers are looking for exactly the sort of writing and reasoning abilities that humanities and social science majors have.

"It's not like humanities majors are ending up as baristas," said Robert Townsend, director of humanities, arts and culture programs at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. "Their job satisfaction, their life satisfaction, are pretty much like everybody else who gets a college degree. And they do a whole lot better than those who don't get a degree. So the idea that there's no return on their investment is ridiculous."

Don't let your alma mater wipe out the philosophy department. If you want to major in public administration or supply chain management, choose a school that demands that you also read some history. At a time of rampant polarization and partisanship, we'll all be better off if the liberal arts, the humanities and the social sciences remain with us for a long time.

Clinging to old classics can go hand in hand with banning books

By JOSHUA PEDERSON
Los Angeles Times

Joshua Pederson is an associat e professor of humanities at Boston University and the author of Sin Sick: Moral Injury in War and Literature. *@joshua_pederson*

Too often, we forget that fights about what we shouldn't read are also battles over what we should read. And that every time someone attempts to ban Toni Morrison or Ta-Nehisi Coates, they're also trying to corral our kids back to Hawthorne and Hemingway, Dante and Dickens.

So perhaps it isn't surprising that in the midst of a flood of book bans we're also seeing a fresh effort to rally our forces to the defense of the classics. Hence, an article in the National Review claims that the great books are in need of a "massive salvage operation." A recent piece in the Federalist calls for a renewed effort to "reclaim our Greco-Roman, Judeo-Christian heritage and enter again into the Great Conversation." And, as if responding to a Florida politician fretting last year that the gadfly of Athens would be canceled, a professor at Columbia University has given us "Rescuing Socrates."

Reading all this, you'd be forgiven if you thought the Western canon was on its last legs. Let me assure you that it isn't.

I'm a humanities professor, and I teach big survey courses that used to be (and still sometimes are) filled exclusively with the dead, white, godly, men of Europe. And even as I try to diversify my own courses, to make room for other voices, I remain stunned at the extent to which these authors still both fill and structure the national conversation.

The best evidence comes from prominent and prestigious publications, which to this day give an astounding amount of space—or pixels, I suppose—to Western authors we've been writing about for centuries. So the most recent issue of Harper's asks that we rethink Casanova. (Another article in the same magazine in the spring urges us to see W.H. Auden "in a new light.") Two weeks ago, The New York Times breathlessly reported breaking news from the field of Chaucer studies. And the October issue of The New Yorker claims that the 400-year-old John Donne is "more contemporary than ever." And these are all from just the past month.

And we don't just see the media's preference for the canon in the content they cover. We see it in the way that canon structures their coverage.

This hit me most forcefully when I read an otherwise provocative article on literature produced by artificial intelligence. It ends with a series of pieces written by the AI at the request of the author in the style of a variety of well-known writers. But almost every one of them comes straight from an introductory English class taught in 1970: Homer, William Shakespeare, Philip Larkin, Sylvia Plath, Robert Frost, Emily Dickinson and George Orwell. Oh, and tokenistically, Langston Hughes.

We can detect this trend also in what culture writers assume their audiences know. So a thoughtful feature article in The New York Times Magazine this month on the contemporary poet Sharon Olds starts by comparing her to T.S. Eliot, Dickinson (again) and Wallace Stevens. That's it. Again, the frame of reference is predominantly European, predominantly male and all white. And the implication is blazingly clear: These are the poets you need to know if you want to know poetry. (It's easy to find analogous examples from the fields of art, music and film.)

In continuing to privilege the old classics, journalists make it easier to dismiss other voices as less important, more discardable—all of which plays right into the hands of the book-banning movement. And even without book banning, the standbys we've been reading forever still take up too much of the available room. If we keep centering the old canon, what should enter a new canon may die of asphyxiation.

So let's stop trying to rescue Socrates. And Shakespeare, Chaucer, Homer and Proust. Believe me: They're doing just fine.

DRILLS

From Page 6

Eric Schmitt and every other prominent Republican on the statewide or national scene refuse to see the link between their gun rights lunacy and the lunacy happening in America's schools, playgrounds, shopping centers and concert venues. Because of that, these mass shootings will happen again and again.

It's up to voters to ensure those politicians aren't allowed to wash the blood of St. Louis school kids from their hands with empty words of thoughts, prayers and "all assistance possible" platitudes.

© 2022 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

EDUCATION

From Page 6

and civic leaders, helps schools implement character education. This year, it has certified over 50 schools, but that's a small percentage of the thousands of schools in the country.

Marvin Berkowitz, a renowned character education expert, said that if we want a more just, equitable and compassionate world we must educate more just, humane, ethical people. That's what character education does; we need it now more than ever.

Kendra Thomas is an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Indianapolis and a public voices fellow through The OpEd Project.

Fourth edition of Green Flash Carve this Saturday

MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Like Michael Myers from the Halloween movies who returned to silver screens this month, the underwater pumpkin carving contest called the Green Flash Carve will return this Halloween for its fourth edition this Saturday at the Laulau Dive Point in Lau Lau Bay.

There are already eight confirmed contestants, including former champions Karie Comstock and Aumen Doram, according to Green Flash Dive co-owner Joey McDoulett.

There is an entrance fee of $15 to be eligible to compete and all participants must be certified divers.

Before the start of the contest at 8am, participants are gathered together for a safety briefing and review of the rules before the dive.

"Everybody is paired up with a dive buddy. Although the majority of people compete with pumpkins, it is not required. In fact, we encourage the use of local fruits and vegetables for the contest entries. Some of our most creative entries in the past have been locally grown fruits and vegetables," said McDoulett.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last year's Green Flash Carve winner Aumen Doram with her winning a jack-o-lantern covered in stitches and a bow.

The pumpkin carving contest started in 2019. "We started the contest to encourage local divers to get to know each other and bring interest locally back to the sport. Halloween is a great holiday for people to express themselves and enjoy our beautiful island at the same time. This contest lets people express themselves in costume as well as art. Everybody that participates, both contestants and supporters, have a great time," he said.

Under the rules of the Green Flash Carve, contestants can hollow out their entry of seeds and any extra material before they enter the water. However, no designs or cuts can be made prior to the dive.

Entries must be completely assembled underwater to be eligible for a prize. The carving is limited to 45 minutes, beginning upon descent. Each carving should present an entry that adheres to the competition's theme of Halloween or underwater.

Judges chosen for the competition come from different sectors of the local community and will score the entries based on originality, visual impact, craftsmanship, and theme.

An additional point will be awarded for the use of local fruits and vegetables. Prizes will be awarded to the first three places.

First place will win a Scubapro MK2/R095 regulator set. Second place will win a Scubapro dive light. Third place will win a Scubapro rash guard.

Aside from the Green Flash Carve, judges will also pick the best costume winner, who will receive 15 free cylinder fills. Second place will receive 10 free cylinder fills. The prizes will be awarded at the awards ceremony at Green Flash Dive at 7pm.

While Green Flash Dive is the sole sponsor of the event, several local dive shops and dive professionals are providing safety or photography, among the, Dive Wish, Axe Murderer Saipan, and dive instructor Tai Doram.

ROTARY CLUB OF SAIPAN
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE
HALLOWEEN Night
AT THE MUSEUM
NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS
FRI, OCT. 28 | 5:30PM - 10:00PM
Over 2k Goodie Bags of Treats
Entertainment
Fiesta FRIDAYS
Goodie Bags (TSL Foundation)
Free Popcorn (DM Sablan Holdings)
Costume Contest (Cash Prize)
RIP
For more information, please contact (670) 664-2160

Win a staycation, more at Hyatt back-to-back Halloween parties

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The front desk of the Hyatt Regency Saipan is now ready for Halloween next week.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will be having back-to-back Halloween parties on Oct. 29 and 30, 2022, that will start 5pm at the Skipper's Beach Bar. For only $45, enjoy the barbecue dinner buffet that comes with a welcome drink. On each day, two contests will be held in this Halloween celebration.

First is the "on-site" contest for Best Halloween Costume that is open to adults and children. The adults category will have three winners: first place wins one night stay at a suite room inclusive of breakfast; second place will win a Kili Café meal voucher for four persons; and third place will win a DJ's Corner signature cheesecake gift certificate. The children's category will have one winner that will take home a DJ's Corner signature cheesecake gift certificate.

Adult contestants are required to post their photo at the Halloween party on Instagram using the two hashtags: #hyattregencysaipan and #BestHalloweenCostumeSkippers. Hyatt will select the top three with the most number of likes and determine the first to third places. The children category winner will be based on the loudest clap from the audience.

The second contest will be open to all guests. Everyone who has Instagram account can post any picture or video during the Halloween party at Skipper's using the two hashtags: #hyattregencysaipan and #HyattSkippersHalloween, tag minimum of three friends and the post with the most number of likes will be the winner. The winning post will be posted on the Hyatt Regency Saipan Instagram account on Monday, Nov.1, 2022, at 3pm and will take home dinner buffet voucher for two at Kili Café.

There will be good food, dancing, trick or treatin', meet and greet 2022 Miss Earth Northern Marianas Katherine Maria Johnson, face painting by local artist Victoria Sewell and the back-to-back events will be hosted by Good Morning Marianas anchor, Brad Ruszala.

Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. Reservations highly recommended. Please call (670) 234-1234.

Hyatt Regency Saipan was established in the CNMI in 1981 and is the first international hotel in the CNMI. ***(Hyatt Regency Saipan)***

CROWNE PLAZA®

AN IHG® HOTEL

RESORT SAIPAN

The Grand Opening

A SAIPAN TRIBUNE SPECIAL ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER 27, 2022

CROWNE PLAZA RESORT SAIPAN

The triumphant return of a Garapan landmark

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

At the center of Saipan's bustling tourist hub lies a tropical oasis that invites guests to explore, enjoy, and stay.

From the glory of the old Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan rises the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. Work and play come together in this iconic landmark that's redesigned and reimagined to fulfill the blended need for work and leisure of the modern global traveler.

This is the first Crowne Plaza Resort in Micronesia. It joins the more than 400 properties in key cities and iconic resort destinations worldwide under the Crowne Plaza brand that is managed by the global hotel group, IHG Hotels & Resorts.

This multi million dollar renovated property boasts of totally new infrastructure that houses 422 guest rooms spread over two towers that have dominated Saipan's skyline since the '70s.

Crowne Plaza Resort

See TRIUMPHANT on Next Page

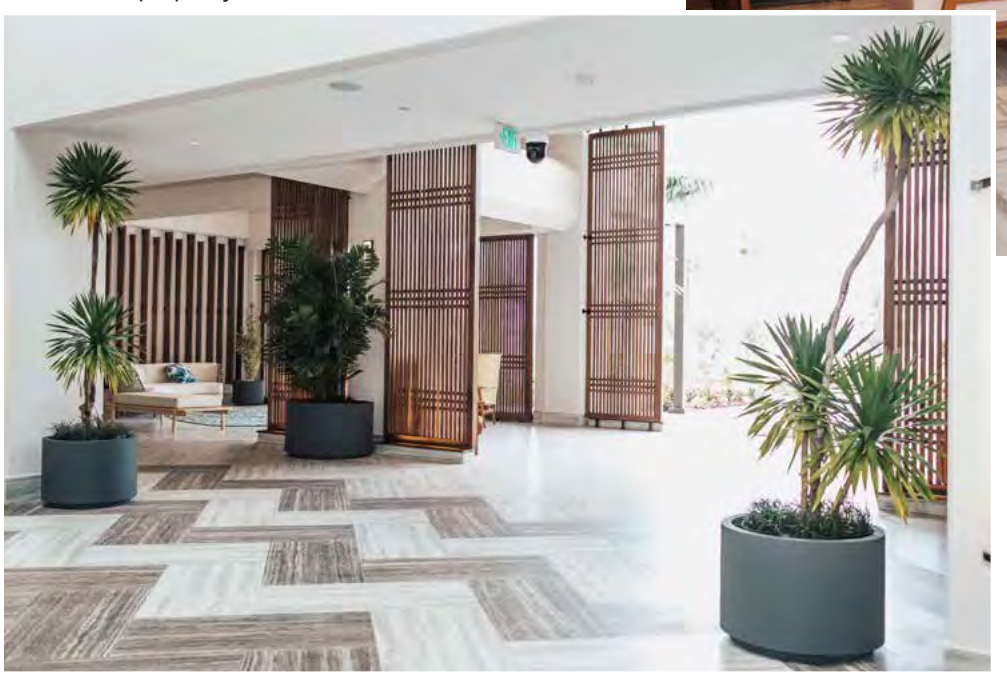
TRIUMPHANT

From Page 10

Saipan General Manager Robert Coates said no cost was spared to mak e the Resort the ideal vacation destination for toda y's world traveler. From major infrastructure changes that includes a reengineered water filtration system an brand new air-conditioning, to new elevators and, most specially, high speed inter - net connection a vailable in all areas of the Resor t —the Crowne Plaza Re - sort Saipan is, indeed, the newest hot proper ty in the neighborhood.

But the most impor tant part of the extensive rework is in the guest rooms, with detailed attention given to both function and design, All elements in the rooms—acoustics, lighting down to the beddings—everything works together to offer visi - tors something outside the traditional hotel experience.

Crowne Plaza rooms are known for their distinct look and feel that enhances the sleep experience. Aptly called the W orkLife Room, guests experience a calm - ing environment designed with three distinct zones to effortlessly support work, relaxation, and sleep.



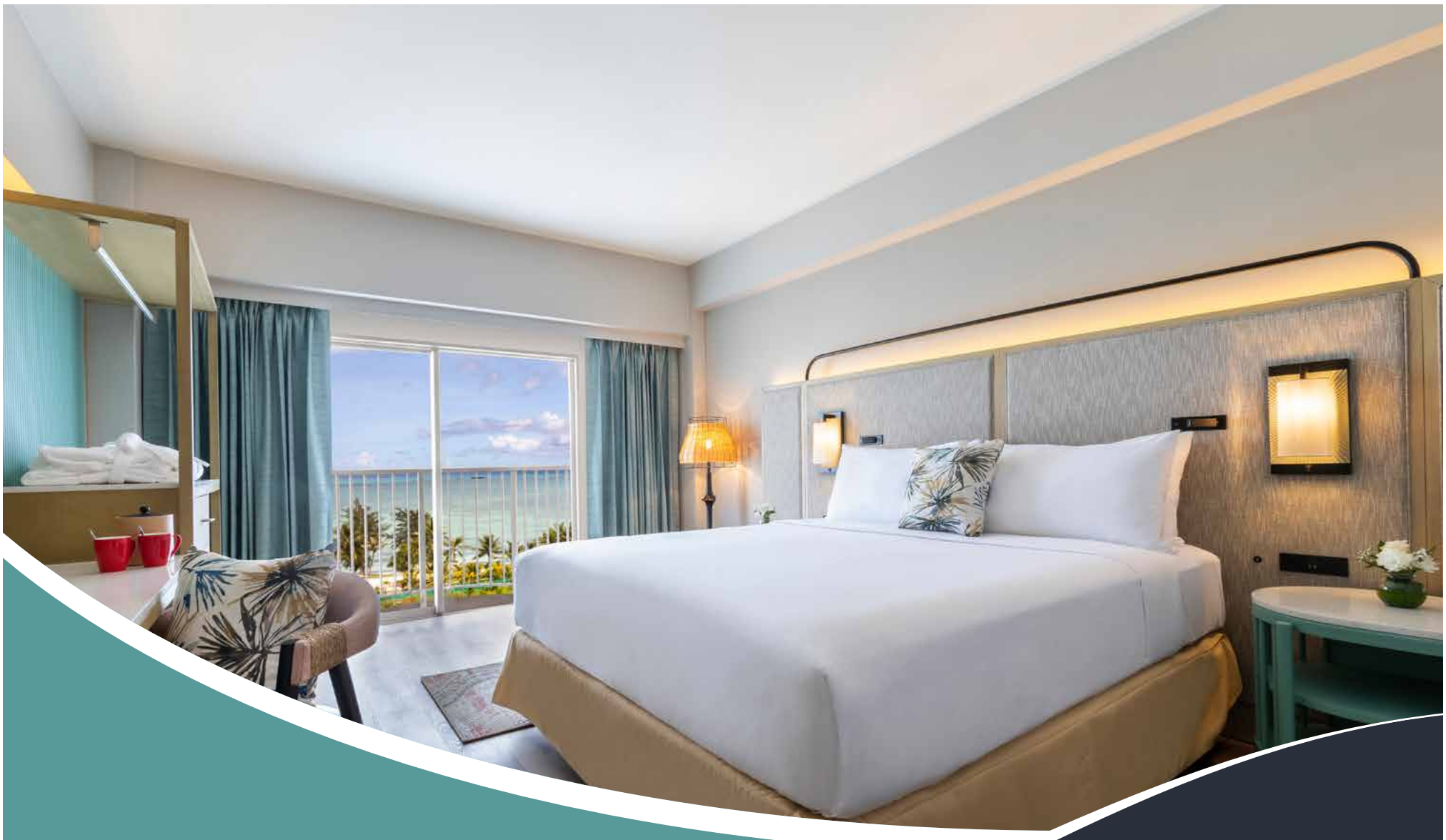
Guests may choose from rooms that either ha ve a view of Saipan's mountain side or of the pristine w a- ters of the Saipan lagoon. The hotel also features four premium rooms with bunk beds ideal for families, 14 oceanfront suites and 14 accessible rooms that cater to persons with disabilities.

The dramatic changes are carried out through the Resorts public spaces, be- ginning at the ar rival and lobby areas. F eaturing new wooden furniture and mar - ble floorings with a bac - drop of a sw eeping view of the Saipan lagoon's aqua- marine waters, guests will immediately feel the call of the sand and surf as soon as they enter the property.

Also tucked in a corner of the hotel's ground floor i the Kid's Club—an indoor- outdoor play area that is a welcome addition to fami - lies who have children up to 11 years old.

Fitness buffs will be in - spired to keep their regimen at the fitness cente , which is now decked with updated equipment befitting an are that is at par with those

See TRIUMPHANT on Page 13



Congratulations!

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
on your grand opening!

73rd ANNIVERSARY

Thank you CNMI for your continuous support all these years!

From the management and staff of

JOETEN ENTERPRISES INC.

J.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES INCORPORATED · JOETEN ACE HARDWARE · JOETEN SUPERSTORE · JOETEN DAIDAI · Joeten Motors POWERED BY YOU · AllStar SPORTING GOODS · BOARDERLINE · taf · Hafa Adai BAKERY · Aiko's DELI · Latte Cafe · JoetenWholesale · CMSI · ISLA FINANCIAL SERVICES · Marianas Management Corporation

TRIUMPHANT

From Page 11

found in inter national hotels.

For those who are look - ing to stage big meetings, conventions and e vents, Crowne Plaza Resor t Saipan is an expert in hosting these gatherings. Big or small, Crowne Plaza has a collective inventory of more than five million squar meters of meeting spaces found all over the world.

Included in this are the Saipan hotel's notable meetings and e vents spaces that ha ve been the site of many local events in the past. The 515-square-me - ter Hibiscus Ballroom can comfortably fit 500 guests while those looking for more intimate venues can book the Azucena Room, which can accommodate 120 guests. Those looking to host w eddings and inti - mate fun events can use the hotel's 4,600-square-meter outdoor venue, which is also fully equipped and wired to host 400 guests.

Crowne Plaza Resor t Saipan's events package comes with the expertise of a professional events team that provides advise and helpful tips to mak e their guests' events the unforget- table gatherings the y envisioned these to be.

Much attention is also placed on guest safety and wellbeing while pro viding flexible creative solutions for all meeting and event needs. The hotel commits to IHG's Clean Promise—clean, well maintained, clutter-free rooms that meet high levels of cleanliness. The IHG Way of Clean pro - gram was developed in partnership with world leaders in hygiene and cleaning technologies and ser vices. This ensures a clean, comfortable place to stay, regular deep-cleaning of high-touch surfaces and best practice cleaning of pools, fitness centers, restaurants and public areas.

In tandem with this is IHG's enhanced "Meet with Confidence" program, which provides appropriate and creative meeting and event solutions without compromising on the expe - rience or the flexibility tha meeting planners require.

Meeting planners will fin it rewarding to book their events at Crowne Plaza since they can ear n points with IHG's Business Re - wards program. Points may be redeemed for trav el, merchandise, and more e very time bookings are made for accommodation, meetings, each or an e vent at o ver 5,900 participating IHG hotels worldwide.

What rounds up a good events place is its food and beverage offerings, which Crowne Plaza has de veloped as well.

Director of Food and Bev- erage Martin Jambor said of the hotel' s fiv restaurants will feature an array of local and inter national favourites that is sure to please an y gourmand's palate.

Jambor emphasized there is an equal need to introduce new and inno va- tive menu selections that will set the hotel's food and beverage offerings apar t from its competitors, but it's also a must to continue of - fering crowd favourites. Ulti- mately, he says the hotel's culinary team is applying innovative approaches to food and drink to satisfy the discriminating taste of the international traveller.

Food and be verage op- tions at the hotel vary, from a buffet spread on selected days at The Terrace, service of which eventually will be expanded to ser ve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, to The Market Place, which offers light snacks and drinks in grab-and-go containers, perfect for those who are on-the-go.

See TRIUMPHANT on Page 15

CROWNE PLAZA

★★★★★

Saipan's New Oasis

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR **GRAND OPENING**

The reinvention of **five stars** in the **Marianas**.

Yours truly,

Partner

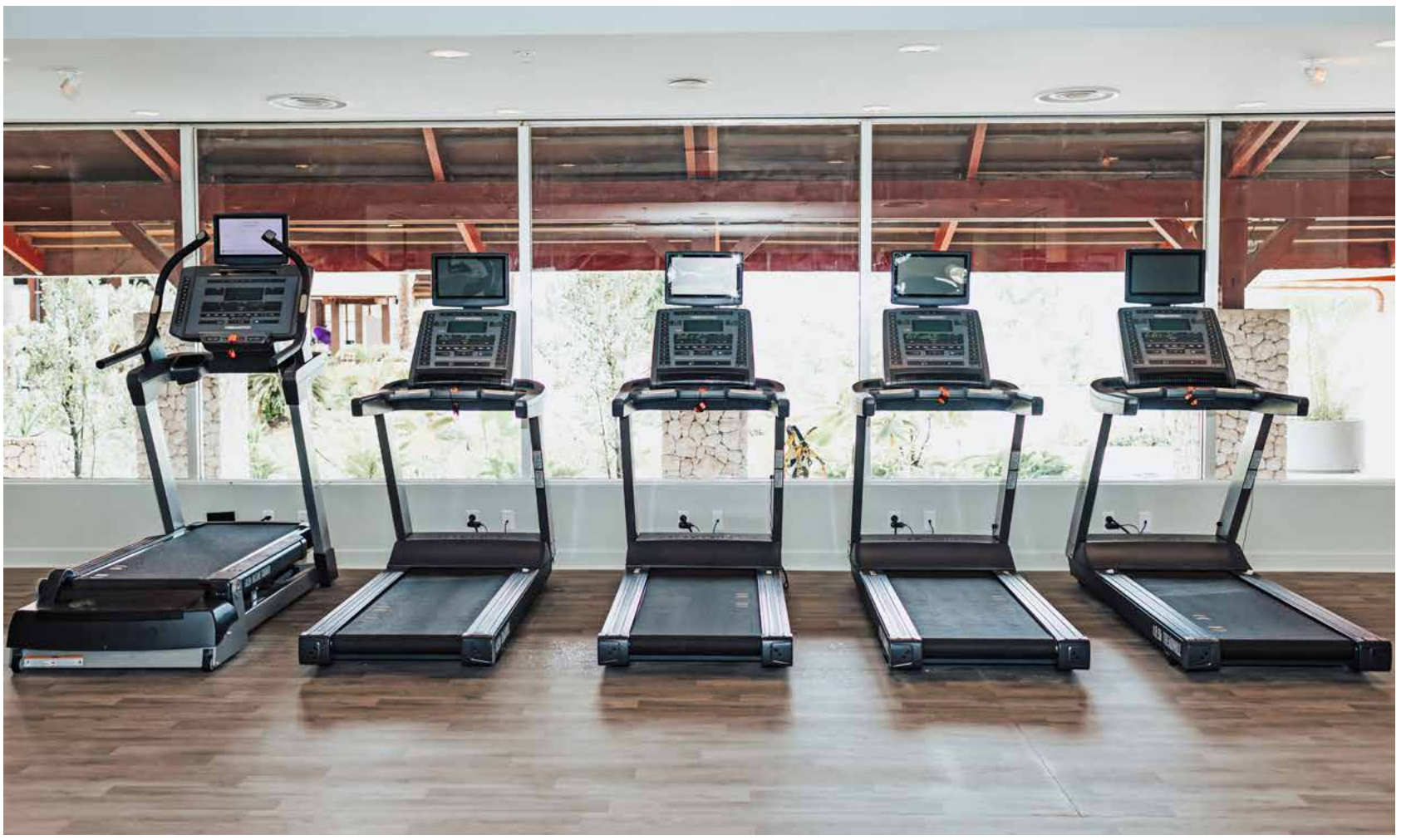
Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.

piui@pacificains.com PO Box 500168, Saipan, MP 96950 (670) 234-6267

pacificains.com

TRIUMPHANT

From Page 13



Inspired signature cocktails, an extensive selection of international and domestic wines and spirits and a menu that feature street style bites from around the world is what the Mari Bar offers.

In the pipeline to open in January 2023 are the Mai Teppanyaki and the Ataari Dinner Show.

When asked what visitors can expect from the hotel and its team of professionals who are skilled to providing constant service, Coates said, "We are led by the needs of our guests and locals and offering them something outside the traditional hotel experience."

And what sets Crowne Plaza's ethos apart from the others is their belief in the concept called "Dare to Connect," which encourages warm, engaging interactions between staff and guests. Through focus and inspiration of colleagues, Coates says the hotel enables their guest's desire to connect.

Crowne Plaza places an important value on the training and development of its team, which are key to the success of a brand. The hotel's staff is a mix of employees who were hired from off island and those who come from the local community. "We embrace our team, we empower them and we work with them. We have to put our energy in them so they can, in return, provide confident service to our guests," Coates said.

He also underscores Crowne Plaza's belief in working with the local community. "While we introduced changes and innovated some of the key elements in the Resort such as the names of restaurants, some of the restaurant concepts like the teppanyaki and the dinner show remain because they have become a part of the hotel's history and tradition. We welcome international guests, but we also want to remain being a part of the fabric of our local community," said Coates.

With vaccination programs in place and health restrictions easing and more borders opening, traveling is again back on the upswing. And just as the international traveler prepares to explore new places and create new experiences, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is ready to be their home away from home,

For more information about Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, visit their website at saipan.crowneplaza.com or connect at Facebook, ~~Twitter~~ and Instagram. It is located along Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan, Saipan. Call 670234-6414 or email info.cprsaipan@ihg.com

Congratulations®
ON YOUR GRAND OPENING!
CROWNE PLAZA
RESORT SAIPAN
SINCE 1978
CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF® BRAND
Customers First
TRIPLE J
TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.
GREAT HARVEST BREAD CO. • SURF CLUB RESTAURANT • BAR-K-DINER • PAYLESS SUPERFRESH & TRUCKLOAD STORE • FIVESTAR WHOLESALE • WHOLESALE TO EVERYONE • TRIPLE J MOTORS • HERTZ & DOLLAR RENT-A-CAR • SURFRIDER RESORT HOTEL • TINIAN WESTERN LODGE • OCEAN RIDGE HOMES • SAIPAN COMFORT HOMES • SANDY BEACH HOMES • TINIAN VILLAGE LODGE • TINIAN CONFERENCE CENTER • TIRE, LUBE & CAR WASH SHOP • TINIAN GARDEN B&B
TEL: (670) 234-1795 | FAX: (670) 234-7347 • EMAIL: INFO@TRIPLEJSAIPAN.COM | WWW.TRIPLEJ.NET

A warm Hafa Adai welcome to

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

Wishing you success and prosperous business here in the CNMI!

From the Office of Senate President

Jude Untalan Hofschneider

and the Members of the 22nd Senate

Commonwealth Legislature and staff

Crowne Plaza® Hotels and Resorts

BY THE NUMBERS*

(*as of September 2022)

Crowne Plaza® Hotels & Resor ts: Crowne Plaza hotels are everywhere the modern business traveller wants to stay for business, blended travel, and leisure holidays. For more information, visit at www.crowneplaza.com and connect through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

- 401 hotels globally (109,996 open rooms)
- 114 hotels in the global pipeline
- Global flagships hotels include
  - Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter at Ravinia
  - Crowne Plaza Hamburg
  - Crowne Plaza Paris– Republique
  - Crowne Plaza Shenzhen WECC
- Recent brand milestones include:
  - WorkLife Room Utility Patent from the US Patent and Trademark Offic
  - In 2020, Crowne Plaza Changi Air port was recognized as Skytrax's Best Air port Hotel in the World for the 6th consecutive year

New noteworthy and upcoming properties include:

- Crowne Plaza Nice – Grand Arenas - opened April 2021)
- Crowne Plaza Budapest - opened July 2021
- Crowne Plaza Phu Quoc Starba = booking from Nov. 1, 2021)
- Crowne Plaza Moscow - P ark Huaming– Russia booking from Dec. 1, 2021
- Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan – opened Octo - ber 22, 2022

Congratulations

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

on your grand opening!

From the Management & Staff of

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

Toll Free No.
1 (800) 757-4780

Website
iFlyMarianas.com

"A New Era in Inter-Island Air Travel"

Elevating the dining experience on Saipan

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's culinary team is led by Director of Food and Beverage Martin Jambor at the helm. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

With the opening of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, fiv new dining destinations are joining Saipan's growing culinary landscape: Three that are already operational (The Terrace, Market Place, and Mari Bar) and two that will soon follow suit (Mai Teppanyaki and the Ataari Dinner Show).

Director of F ood and Beverage Martin Jambor said they made the con - scious decision to retain some of the old dining el - ements that ha ve become locally popular. "We want our guests to feel excited by putting out ne w things while, at the same time, still keeping some tried and tested items on the menu," he said.

Under Jambor's guidance, the Food and Be verage team has been busy refi - ing the hotel's culinary of- ferings, in line with the dis - criminating taste of toda y's modern traveler.

At The T errace, guests dine on a wide variety of local and inter national fa- vorites with the view of Saipan's turquoise w aters in the background. The buffet-style spread fea - tures a menu that blends international cooking tech- niques and ingredients. At the moment, this casual dining place only offer s a breakfast spread but this will eventually be expand - ed to cover lunch and din - ner services.

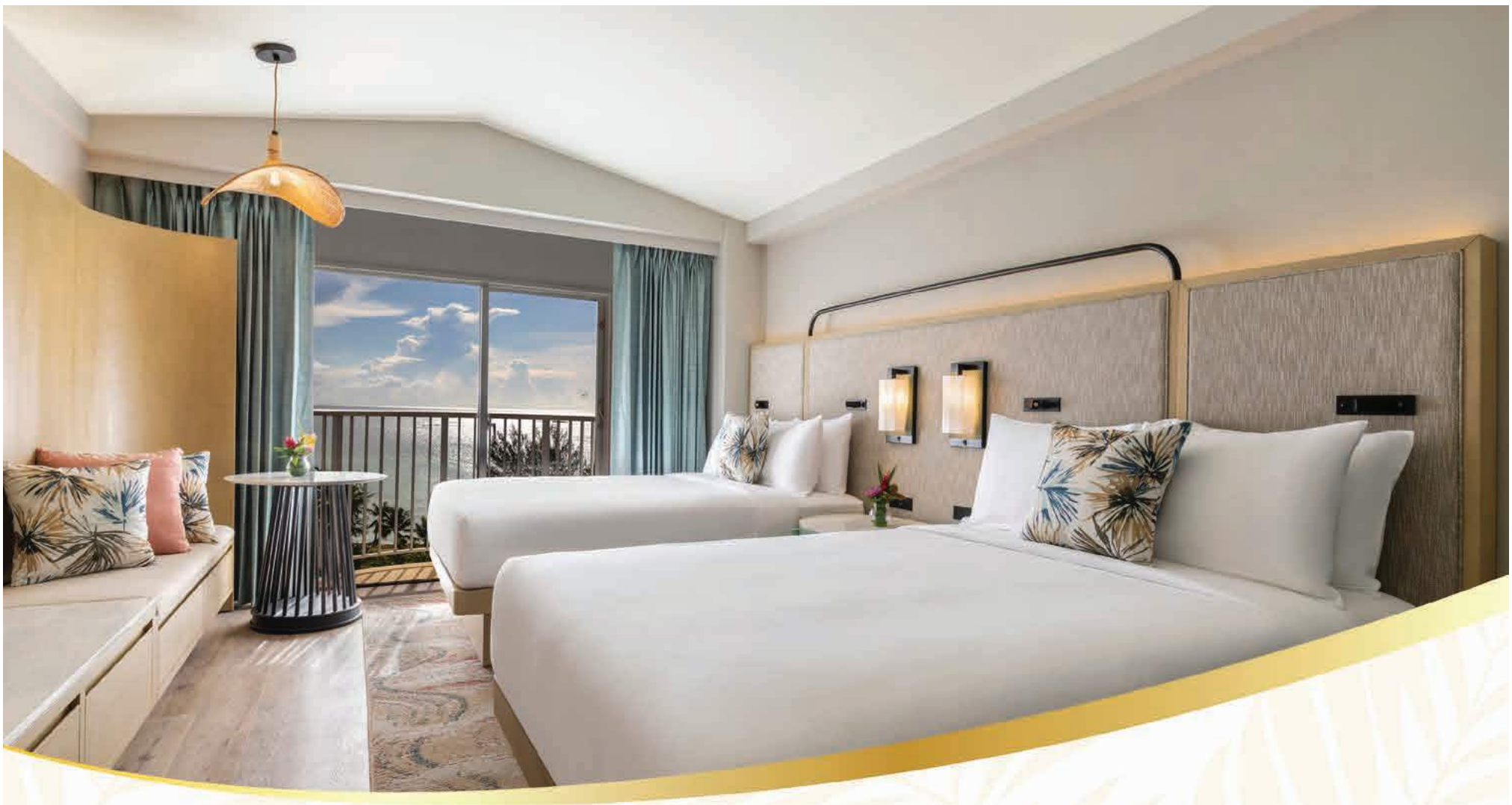
Guests are sure to line up at the live car ving sta- tion, which offer s smoked creations while the pastr y station has the bread and desserts guaranteed to sat- isfy the cravings of anyone with a sw eet tooth. There is also a raw bar that has the freshest seafood. It is highly recommended that guests order the Crowne Is- land Omelette.

The Terrace has seats for private rooms and seats 191 guests indoors and 60 outdoors.

For those who are meet - ing colleagues or catching up on wor k at the hotel' s "workspace," the Mar ket Place is where the y can find light bites and drinks to ease their hunger while at work. The options range from cookies and cak es to healthy options, all packed for grab-and-go con ve- nience. The Market Place's freshly brewed coffee and other coffee creations will please any coffee enthu - siast, while those who are looking for uncaffeinated alternatives will surely go

See ELEVATING on Page 21

Congratulations
CROWNE PLAZA
RESORT SAIPAN
ON A SUCCESSFUL OPENING
Congratulations to Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan for their highly-anticipated opening! Having another global hotel brand in our islands is a great honor, and I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone involved for making this opening possible. This is a great contribution to our islands, as it provides another hub for our tourists, as well as an expansion on the quality of our growing tourism market.
On behalf of the Commonwealth, we thank you for your remarkable commitments to our tourism and local hospitality industry, and we look forward to the success of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan!
Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisow, and Thank you!
– GOVERNOR RALPH DLG. TORRES



Congratulations

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

on your Grand Opening!

We thank you for your continued partnership and look forward to many years to come!

From your friends at

TakeCare Insurance Company, Inc.

Count on TakeCare to deliver comprehensive, accredited insurance coverage and quality health care when and where you need it.

Choose TakeCare. Our Island, Your Health Plan.

Ask TIVA

SCAN ME

Chat with Us!

Scan QR Code or visit link to get started.

https://takecareasia.com/tiva

Customer Service (670) 235-0994 / 6-8

Our Island, Your Health Plan™

AUDITED NCQA HEDIS® COMPLIANCE AUDIT MY2020 COMMERCIAL

Health Plan Accredited by AAAHC ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION for AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE, INC.

TakeCare™ A TanHoldings Company

takecareasia.com

Connect with us

ELEVATING

From Page 17

for the delicious milk - shakes with island exclu - sive gelato and the chef 's signature sundae.

At the Mari Bar , sip one of their refreshing signa - ture cocktails or choose a drink from an extensive selection of international and domestic wines and spirits and pair it with an y- thing from their menu that feature street-style bites from around the wor ld. The bar's relaxing ambiance is the place to catch one of Saipan's romantic sunsets.

Opening in January 2023 is Mai T eppanyaki, a long - time island fa vorite that features mouthwatering beef and seafood. The Ata - ari Dinner Show, which is also a guest fa vorite, will also open in January, 2023. Known as the home of Saipan's best cultural din - ing experience, this outdoor buffet that gives guests a taste of the island culture features a nightly show of fire dance ,and music.

Crowne Plaza's team of globally experienced culinary minds are ready to up the ante to elevate the local din- ing scene to new heights.

The hotel's culinary lead- ership team is made up of Jambor; Joshua Choi,

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Michelin-starred Executive Chef Gennaro Avagnale is also the Cluster Director of Food & Bev- erage Culinary.

Cluster Director of F ood & Beverage; and a Michelin- starred Executive Chef, Gennaro Avagnale, in the role of Cluster Director of Food & Be verage Culinary. Avagnale promises to de - liver a skillful blend of food from his 10 year s' experi- ence of cooking in different regions of the globe. Spe - cializing in Italian cuisine, Avagnale's experience has already earned him two Mi - chelin stars. "I am honored that I ha ve been selected to join Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan as a culinary mas- ter and I am eager to learn about the local culture and the food of the islands in as much as I will share m y Italian heritage to offer food that our guests will come back for," he said.

Assisting Avagnale in the kitchen is sous chef and local son Zenn T omokane. With a strong foundation in the hospitality industr y, To- mokane's skills in catering , food and beverage, and ho- tel management round up the talented team.

As in anything that is new, the hotel's culinary team also has its share of chal - lenges to overcome. On the islands, sourcing quality food and ingredients and the logistics in volved in shipping goods and equip - ment can be hurdles but Jambor said not an y of these daunt them. Instead, they get inspired to be more innovative in the use of sup- ply and ingredients that are readily on hand.

"Our team has been giv - en more oppor tunities to explore and inno vate and we are taking advantage of this," Jambor said,

For more information about the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's food and beverage offerings and to make reservations, call 671-234-6414 or visit the website saipan.crowneplaza.com/restaurant

CONGRATULATIONS!

Wishing the management and staff of
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
a prosperous business here in the CNMI!

From the management and staff of
CIC Century Insurance
A TanHoldings Company

1st Floor JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan • Tel.: 670-234-0609 • Fax: 670-234-1845

Wishing the management and staff of
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
a prosperous business here in the CNMI!

From the management and staff of
Shirley's COFFEE SHOP
Home of the Best Fried Rice

shirleyscoffeeshopfanpage
@shirleys_saipan
shirleyscoffeeshop

Garapan: Tel: (670) 233-4519/20
Susupe: Tel: (670) 235-5379/80

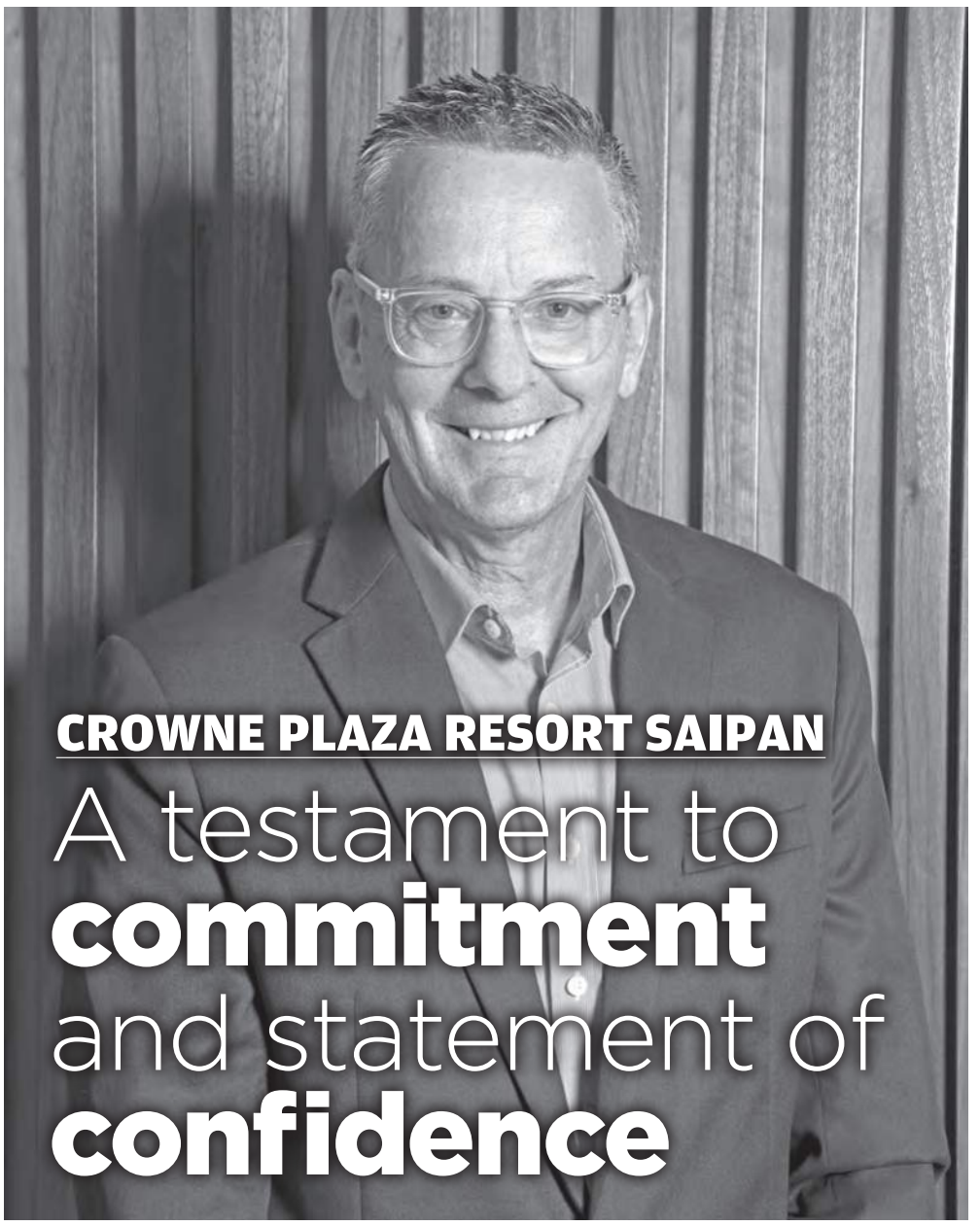
Sunday - Thursday: 6am - 10pm • Friday-Saturday: 6am - 6am, (24 hrs.)
6am - 10pm daily

Congratulations

for Grand Opening of **Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan!**

We wish flourishing business and success for you.
Let's work together for the future of CNMI!

E·LAND GROUP



CROWNE PLAZA RESORT SAIPAN

A testament to **commitment** and statement of **confidence**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
General Manager Robert Coates leads the team at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

金八 KINPACHI
Japanese Restaurant

Best wishes to the management and staff of
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
on your grand opening.

Location: Coral Tree Avenue (across Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan)
Opens Tuesday - Sunday 11:30am-2:00pm / 5:30pm-9:00pm
Tel: 234-6900

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

Roll out the red carpet because the much-awaited opening of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, has finally arrived!

Boasting a multi-million-dollar renovation that elevates the Garapan property to international hotel standards, the Crowne Plaza welcomed its first guests to its 422-room Resort last Oct. 17, 2022, after being closed for renovation for the past two years.

This marks the entry of the Intercontinental Hotels Group PLC—otherwise known in the global hotel industry as IHG Hotels and Resorts—into the region, although the Resort still remains under the ownership of the Asia Pacific Hotels Inc. of Tan Holdings Corp.

This is the third reincarnation for this iconic Saipan landmark, first known as the Dai-Ichi Hotel Saipan Beach from the

> **The reopening of Crowne Plaza Resort on Saipan…is a big statement of confidence that Tan Holdings is making. It shows the company's unwavering commitment to the islands, which it calls home.**

'70s until 2002, when it was rebranded as the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Desiring to bring an international brand to the CNMI and the extensive economic opportunities that come with it, APHI entered into a long-term agreement with the IHG group, with the Resort officially becoming the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan in May 2020. The Saipan hotel joins two other similar brands in Nice and Budapest as the most recent Hotels IHG opened under the Crowne Plaza brand

IHG made sure that it has the best team on hand to lead the property in its initial foray in the Northern Marianas, with General Manager Robert Coates leading the team. Backed with 27

Continued on Next Page

Best wishes
to the management and staff of
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
on your grand opening.

ANGEL A. DEMAPAN
HOUSE MINORITY LEADER
22ND NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE

The leadership team at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From Page 23

years' experience as a multi-unit General Manager at IHG, Coates has successfully led operations across a number of IHG Hotels & Resorts in Australia and New Zealand. These include two Crowne Plaza resorts in New Zealand and the Gagudju Crocodile Holiday Inn.

The Crowne Plaza brand is known to cater to the modern business traveler but Coates says the brand is also flexible in accommodating any type of guest anywhere in the world. "Crowne Plaza fully understands that today's modern traveler is known for balancing their work/life schedule. While their initial intent may be to travel for work, they also combine some leisure activities during their downtime."

And this is where Crowne Plaza comes in. "We are positioned as an upmarket brand as well as a versatile one that appeals to both the corporate traveler and those travelling for leisure."

The Crowne Plaza brand

Continued on Next Page

KFC
2 COOL BUCKETS
Happy Halloween
Choose 2 for $24.99!
HALLOWIN SPECIAL!
GET A CHANCE TO JOIN OUR
PICK-A-BOO GAME WHEN YOU
BUY THIS OFFER ON OCTOBER 31, 2022!
6 PCS CHICKEN STRIPS, LARGE COLESLAW
12 PCS HOT WINGS, LARGE FRENCH FRIES
5 PCS CHICKEN, LARGE RED RICE
OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 4, 2022

TACO BELL
XL BOO-RRITO SURPRISE!
OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 4, 2022
COME FOR A KFC AND TACO BELL TREAT ON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2022 AND WE'LL GIVE YOU GOODIES TO EAT!
FIRST 100 KIDS BETWEEN 12 PM - 2 PM
FIRST 100 KIDS BETWEEN 3 PM - 7 PM
GET ALL FOR $12.99
XL TACO BOORITO
XL SPICY CHICKEN BOORITO
XL STEAK HOUSE BOORITO

From Page 24

can be found everywhere the modern traveler wants to be productive, energized, restored, and inspired, with more than 400 locations in city, airport, resort and suburban destinations. "You can find Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts in central business districts, resort locations as well as in regional areas and a little bit more in remote areas."

Coates is excited for both the hotel's visitors and what IHG and its global network of premium hotel brands can contribute to the growth of the Northern Marianas' tourism industry.

"We are going to tap into our network of hotels globally to market the Northern Marianas as an ideal destination to those who seek leisure vacations." Coates said.

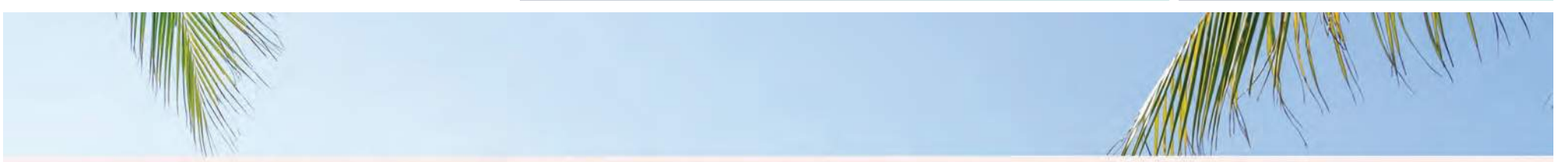
Through IHG's One Rewards program, Crowne Plaza will also be able to bring in meetings and convention groups in need of spaces that will stimulate creativity and productivity as well as provide efficient customer service. "There is a need among groups, companies, and government agencies to re-energize and regroup so there are opportunities in the CNMI for the resort to host these small meetings and gatherings. These groups are looking for big spaces to create and do interesting things, different things, and create connections. We can do a lot of things for different markets," said Coates.

In addition, Crowne Plaza will also be drawing on its network's family and honeymoon markets—rejuvenating interest in these two markets that were the CNMI's most popular clientele prior to the pandemic as well as expanding interest in the Northern Marianas to visitors from other regions.

Much hope is pinned on the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan to further help stimulate the island's tourism industry, which has suffered heavily the past five years from the back-to-back effects of super typhoons and the pandemic. In addition the devaluation of the Japanese and Korean currencies and travel uncertainties in the Japanese family market had also had adverse effects on the flow of visitors to the islands.

Despite these, Coates is optimistic that the CNMI will be able to rebound from these challenges. "We are seeing countries ease travel restrictions for inbound and outbound travelers. Some of them are even waiving test-

See TESTAMENT on Page 27



CONGRATULATIONS

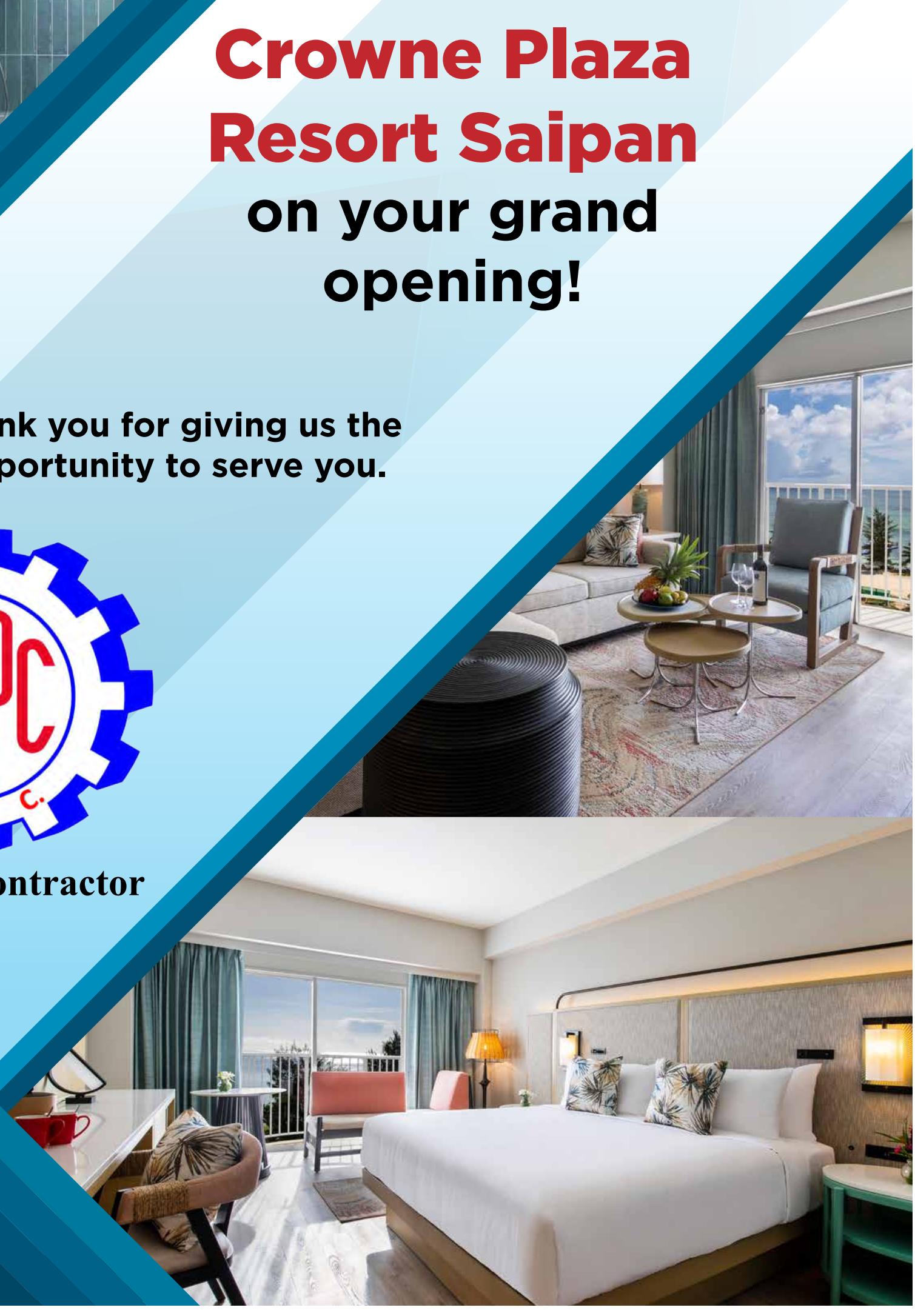
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

on your grand opening!

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

GPPC INC.

General Contractor



The entire Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan team CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TESTAMENT

From Page 25

ing requirements. They are confident enough that, with vaccination programs and safety protocols in place, international travel can again happen. Economies need borders to open for tourists to come in. We depend on travel to resume so we can steer the CNMI's economy to a more stable course."

But Coates says Crowne Plaza and any other present and future hotel and resort developments in the Northern Marianas for that matter can only do so much. Ultimately, it takes the effort of all sectors of the community to reap the rewards of a burgeoning tourism industry. "Crowne Plaza works in conjunction with different partners. We will use our system and network over 6,000 hotels around the world to promote the Northern Marianas. But to grow a destination, you have to work with your partners—the local governments and tourism bodies, in this case the Marianas Visitors Authority, which we work very closely with. And you also have to build the demand for the destination."

Coates said tourists visit a place that offer unique experiences and what makes the Northern Marianas special is the warm hospitality of its people and the "Hafa Adai" spirit of the local community.

But all things considered, Coates said the most significant result that comes out of this multi-million-dollar investment is the investor confidence that Tan Holdings has created for the economy of Guam and the Northern Marianas.

"Everyone—both local investors and businesses and, most importantly, the local community benefits from the presence of an international brand. From a small dive shop or a tour operator or a day trekking company, doing business with an international brand gives them credibility. With high tourist demand for a destination also comes the equivalent demand for more airline services to the islands. The presence of an international brand gives a destination a stamp of authenticity and of maturity to some degree." Coates said.

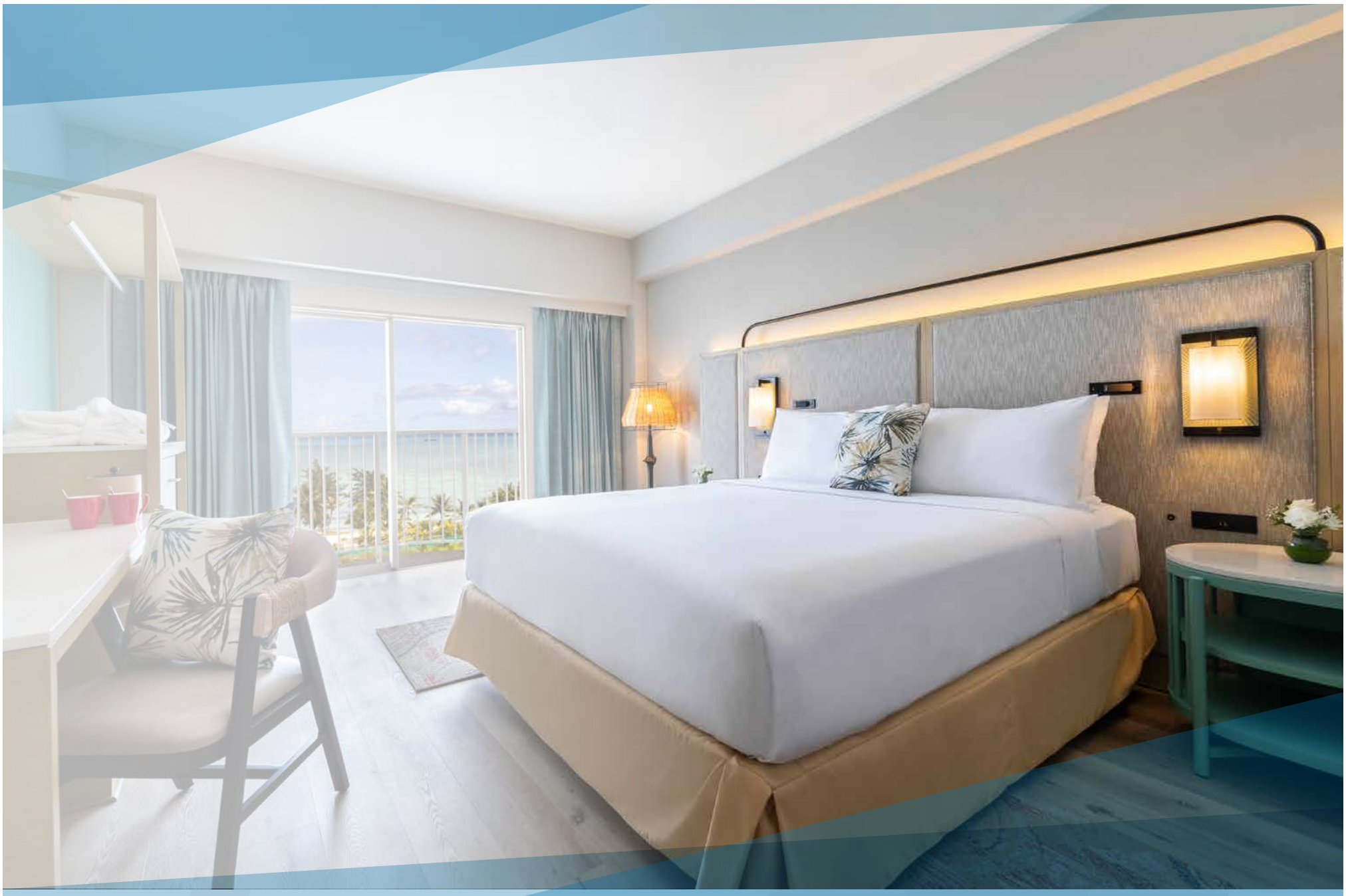
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's opening, which comes just as a global pandemic is easing, is also a fitting occasion for Tan Holdings itself, which is marking its 50th anniversary this year of doing business in the Northern Marianas and the Western Pacific region.

"The reopening of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan and soon, on Guam is a big statement of confidence that Tan Holdings is making. It shows the company's unwavering commitment to the islands, which it calls home. Even with the pandemic's looming presence, we moved ahead with this development and now we are reopening this property just in time for the resumption of international travel," he said.

Coates invites the community to check out the hotel and the many changes they've made to it. "The local community is very much a part of the fabric of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. Inasmuch as they embraced and supported Fiesta Resort, we also ask the same as this property is so much more about them and Tan Holdings, which has made an enormous investment on our islands' economy. As owners of the hotel, they have trusted IHG to use its wide network and database to broaden the CNMI's reach as an international destination to a wider tourist market. Just as they have been accustomed to in the past, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan remains the place where they can host their wedding, anniversaries, family gatherings and important occasions."

Congratulations
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan
on your grand opening!

From the management and staff of
Saipan Ice & Water
Call us: 322-6130 / 9848 / 9455
E-mail: spnice@pticom.com
Like us: facebook.com/saipanice
Visit us: saipanice.com



Celebrating with the staff and management of

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

on your grand opening.

Cheers!

From the Management & Staff of

Tan Siu Lin Foundation

50 ANNIVERSARY

One Beat. One Team. One Vision.

Tan Holdings

'This is the kind of investment we need'

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

KIMBERLY ESMORES

MP Enterprises president Keith Stewart officially introduces the Northern Marianas Airways to the public last Thursday at the commuter terminal of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Following the recent unveiling of the Northern Marianas Airways to the public, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has expressed enthusiasm for future opportunities that a home-based international airline would bring to the CNMI.

In a brief interview with Torres, he said that MP Enterprises, spearheaded by its president, Keith Stewart, has accomplished a great feat for the CNMI through the establishment of a Saipan-based international airline, adding that this is the kind of investment that the CNMI needs.

"This type of investment, this is what we need—having a flagship international airline registered here in the Marianas. For us, this is the greatest accomplishment that any island destination could ever ask and hope for. It's going to create opportunities. Every passenger, every tourist that comes in gives opportunities for farmers, for a fisherman, or a plumber, for every occupation, an opportunity to grow our workforce, and to open up new tourist sources like Australia," he said.

Aside from providing jobs for local resident, the airline would also open up further investment opportunities for the CNMI, Torres added.

"It's not just about tourists coming in, it's also investors. This airline could bring in new investors and when these investors come in, they'll look around and say, 'Maybe I want to build a restaurant,' 'Maybe I want to build a brewery' because we don't have that here. They might think 'Maybe I'll upgrade their watersports,' 'Maybe I want to join a fishing industry.' So we will see that for sure, 100%, because we saw that when the Japanese market and Korean market came. When tourists come in, their investors also come in. So I look forward to it. It's a great thing for the Marianas. This will also open up investment opportunities for Rota or Tinian. So I congratulate all the partners and we look forward to making sure that they succeed because when they succeed, we all succeed," he said.

Torres also addressed the possibility of establishing an Australian tourist market, something the CNMI has never had.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

MANGO
Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations
Job Vacancy Announcement
GRANT WRITER
Interested applicants submit resume and cover letter to info@mangocnmi.org
For more information on the position, visit mangocnmi.org

MANGO
Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations
Job Vacancy Announcement
PROGRAM ASSISTANT
Interested applicants submit resume and cover letter to info@mangocnmi.org
For more information on the position, visit mangocnmi.org

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Tels: (670) 234-6866
234-9447
234-7689
234-7670
Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

10/27/2022

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after November 14, 2022, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project Activity/Type:
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Underground Service to Critical Loads Project

The CUC proposes to construct an underground primary powerline to power electric service for various critical loads to assure loads maintain electric service during extreme weather events. The project is to connect underground electric services as a primary line to the Tinian Elementary School and Head Start Kindergarten, Social Hall, Tinian Health Center, Tinian Department of Public Safety, Tinian Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Tinian Court House, Tinian High School, Bank of Guam, Tinian Commerce, Tinian Gymnasium and Tinian Civic Center.

Purpose:
The effects of typhoon Yutu reflected the need for a secure and consistent power supply to critical needs of the island. The devastation caused delays in basic infrastructure necessities of power and water for the island residents. One way to eliminate timely assistance is to provide critical power to strategically service oriented locations that will assist the island quickly after a severe weather events. This project will lessen the impact recovery of the island to a more manageable control with the basic need of utilities to need of the residents.

Location:
Tinian, MP 96952

Total Project Cost:
$11,332,693.00 in CDBG-DR funding
No other funding sources were identified

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) and is ready for public viewing on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhcgov.net or www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or you may visit the on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road Chalan Laulau, Saipan during regular working hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments from the following options: Via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and Via email at nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp. All comments received by **November 14, 2022, 4:00 p.m.**, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C. will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov ; Tel: (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Ralph DLG Torres
Governor, CNMI

Off The Wall

Woman charged with sending bee swarm on deputies at eviction

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—A Massachusetts woman who released a swarm of bees on sheriff's deputies as they tried to serve an eviction notice is facing multiple assault and battery charges, authorities said.

Rorie S. Woods, 55, pleaded not guilty at her arraignment on Oct. 12 in Springfield District Court and was released without bail, Masslive.com, citing court records, reported on Wednesday.

She and other protesters maintain that they were trying to prevent a wrongful eviction. The homeowner, Alton King, brought evidence of a bankruptcy stay to court the next day, at which point "everything should have stopped," said Grace Ross of the Massachusetts Alliance Against Predatory Lending.

Woods' lawyer did not immediately respond to a voicemail left by The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Hampden County deputies were met by protesters when they went to the home in Longmeadow on the morning of Oct. 12, according to the official department report.

Woods, who lives in Hadley, arrived in an SUV towing a trailer carrying bee hives and started "shaking" them, breaking the cover off one and causing hundreds of bees to swarm out and initially sting one deputy, according to the report.

AP

Rorie S. Woods, 55, of Hadley, Mass., center, wears a beekeeping suit while taken into custody by Hampden County Sheriff's Department officers, in Longmeadow, Mass., Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2022.

Woods, who put on a beekeeper's suit to protect herself, was eventually handcuffed but not before several more sheriff's department employees were stung, including three who are allergic to bees, the report said.

When Woods was told that several officers were allergic, she said "Oh, you're allergic? Good," according to the report.

Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi said Woods could have faced more serious charges if anything worse had happened. "We had one staff member go the hospital, and, luckily, he was all right," Cocchi said.

The deputies were simply doing their duty, Chief Deputy Sheriff Robert Hoffman said.

"We had a court order that's been presented to us and it's our job to effectuate that court order," Hoffman said. "It was Miss Woods' arrival with her vehicle and her trailer that really caused things to go haywire."

Gross or great? Fancy butter boards soar as shortage looms

NEW YORK (AP)—Legit gross or crazy delicious?

Butter boards, the polarizing stepchild of charcuterie, have taken TikTok to new food-craze heights as some horrified safety and nutrition experts look on. And now, heading into the holidays, the boards are landing on tables as quick, inexpensive alternatives to the meat- and fancy cheese-laden OG despite a winter butter shortage projected for the U.S. that could drive up prices and make it more difficult to find in supermarkets.

"I wish they'd just go away. The idea of smearing something on a wood board with other food, sharing that with other people and having them all dip into it. It's a bacteria heaven," said Laura Cipullo, a registered dietitian in New York City.

Justine Doiron, who creates food content as @justine-snacks on TikTok and Instagram, got the butter board party started on Sept. 15. She is credited with coining the term in a video that has her spreading it with abandon on a cutting board and topping it with, among many other things, edible flowers.

She got the idea—jazzed up butter on wood—from chef Joshua McFadden's 2017 cookbook with Martha Holmberg, "Six Seasons: A New Way with Vegetables."

"I think the draw is that it's super customizable," Doiron told The Associated Press. "You can be so creative with it, and people are always looking for something they've never seen before. It's a low effort way to have some fun with food."

ROBERT T. TORRES
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 500730 CK Plata Drive,
Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859 • Fax: 234-5750

Robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com

Attorney for Petitioner: Merced M. Tomokane

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTOF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	Civil Action No. 22-0243
CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO, Decedent.	NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
	DATE: November 17, 2022 TIME: 10:00 a.m. JUDGE: Hon. Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Merced M. Tomokane of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner") has petitioned the Superior Court of Northern Marianas Islands to Admit the Estate of Carmen Olopai Taitano, the deceased to Probate, for Letters of Administration of the Estate and appointment of Patrick O. Taitano as a proposed Administrator of the Estate. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plate Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Merced M. Tomokane, as Petitioner and to appoint Patrick O. Taitano as the proposed Administrator, is scheduled to be heard on the date at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan. All interested persons and entities should appear at the hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased, or her estate are hereby required by the law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claims should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein- above indicated.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of October 2022.

/S/_____
CLERK OF COURT/DEPUTY CLERK

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: FISCAL OFFICER
PAY-LEVEL: P.L. 28 / STEP 1-10 ($40,017 – $62,080)
REPORTS TO: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION:

This is an exempt professional position responsible for the management of office/program fiscal systems including but not limited to all accounts receivables and program expenditures. The Fiscal Officer is selected by and reports to the Executive Director and works under limited supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✓ Bachelor's Degree (B.A. and/or B.S.) in a field related to work of this position or no less than 120 credit hours from an accredited post-secondary school in areas related to the work of this position;
- ✓ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of federal and/or state grants management systems and any applicable policies, laws and other relevant regulations; and
- ✓ No less than four (4) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of accounting and/or auditing concepts as they apply to state and federal government funds.

HOW TO APPLY:
Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on middle road approximately 100 yards north of the Gualo Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application must be submitted to the Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. In order for applications to be considered they must include **(1) a Cover Letter (2) a Resume'** and **(3) Completed Application forms.** Incomplete Application and/or applications which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets the minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal do not meet will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact **Mr. Gregory Borja at (670) 235-7273/4 (Voice)/ (670) 287-0652 (Message)** or email at **gborja@nmpasi.org. NMPASI is an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.**

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 18, 2022 AT 4PM

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP23-OPA-01
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: October 28, 2022 | TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"SINGLE AUDIT OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 and 2023"

THE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, LOCATED AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS (MONDAY – FRIDAY, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM, CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS).

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MS. DORA I. DELEON GUERRERO, TEMPORARY PUBLIC AUDITOR, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR VIA EMAIL TO mail@opacnmi.com.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI OPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC § 130-30-725 AND § 130-30-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

OPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OPA. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF OPA AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE PROPOSERS.

/s/ DORA I. DELEON GUERRERO, CPA
TEMPORARY PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ MICHELLE A. CAMACHO
PROCUREMENT OFFICER

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR
INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB23-OPA-01
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: November 3, 2022 | TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"LEASE OF ONE (1) NEW FOUR DOOR SEDAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, LOCATED AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITAL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS (MONDAY-FRIDAY, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM, CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS)

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI OPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC § 130-30-725 AND § 130-30-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

OPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OPA. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF OPA AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE PROPOSERS.

/s/ DORA I. DELEON GUERRERO, CPA
TEMPORARY PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ MICHELLE A. CAMACHO
PROCUREMENT OFFICER

Life & Style

Adidas ends partnership with Ye over antisemitic remarks

NEW YORK (AP)—Adidas ended a partnership that helped make the artist formerly known as Kanye West a billionaire and lent the German sportswear an edgy appeal, but ultimately couldn't survive a mounting outcry over the rapper's offensive and antisemitic remarks.

The split will leave Adidas searching for another transcendent celebrity to help it compete with ever-larger rival Nike, but will likely prove even costlier for Ye, as the rapper is now known. The sneaker giant became the latest company to cut ties with Ye, whose music career has been in decline as he courted controversy.

Adidas said it expected to take a hit of up to 250 million euros ($246 million) to its net income this year from the decision to immediately stop production of its line of Yeezy products and stop payments to Ye and his companies. Its shares closed down more than 2% on Tuesday.

"Adidas does not tolerate antisemitism and any other sort of hate speech," the company said in a statement Tuesday. "Ye's recent comments and actions have been unacceptable, hateful and dangerous, and they violate the company's values of diversity and inclusion, mutual respect and fairness."

For weeks, Ye has made antisemitic comments in interviews and social media, including a Twitter post earlier this month that he would soon go "death con 3 on JEWISH PEOPLE," an apparent reference to the U.S. defense readiness condition scale known as DEFCON. He was suspended from both Twitter and Instagram.

Ye expressed some regret in an interview with podcaster Lex Fridman posted online Monday, in which he characterized his initial tweet as a mistake and apologized to "the Jewish community." An email message sent to a representative for Ye was not immediately returned.

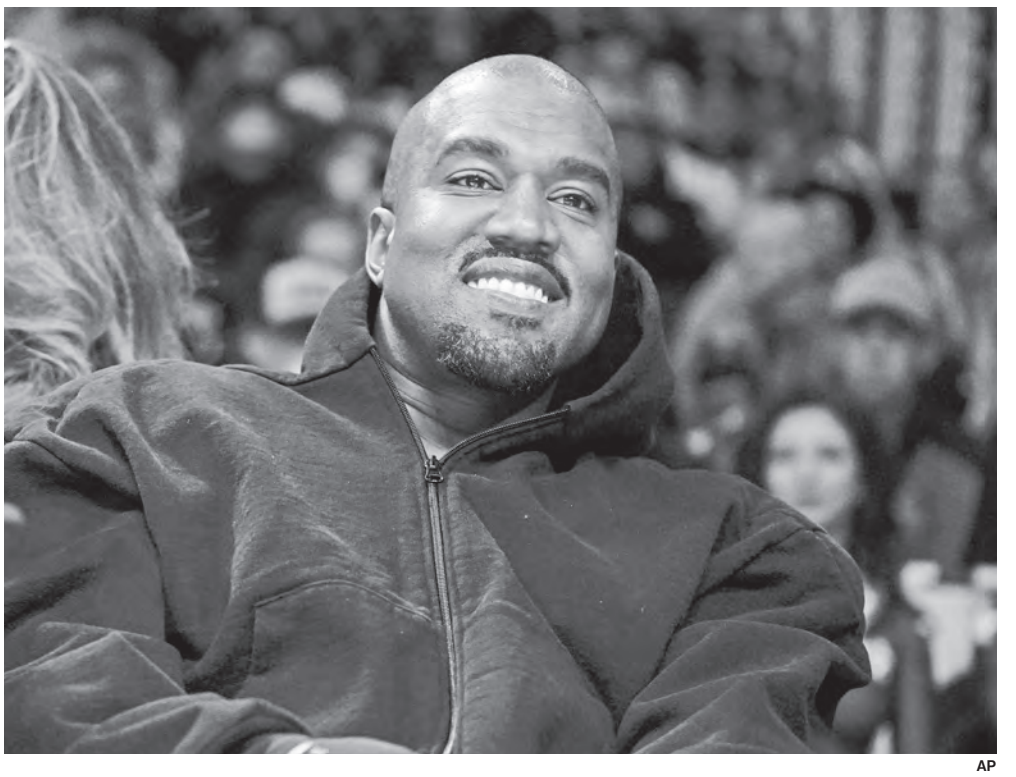
Adidas has stuck with Ye through other controversies over his remarks about slavery and COVID-19 vaccines. But Ye's antisemitic comments stirred up the company's own past ties with the Nazi regime that the company had worked to leave behind. The World Jewish Congress noted that during World War II, Adidas factories "produced supplies and weapons for the Nazi regime, using slave labor."

Jewish groups said the decision to drop Ye was overdue.

"I would have liked a clear stance earlier from a German company that also was entangled with the Nazi regime," Josef Schuster, president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, the main Jewish group in the country where Adidas is headquartered.

Adidas, whose CEO Kasper Rorsted is stepping down next year, said it reached its decision after conducting a "thorough review" of its partnership with Ye, whose talent agency, CAA, as well as Balenciaga fashion house had already dropped the rapper. In the hours before the announcement, some Adidas employees in the U.S. had spoken out on social media about the company's inaction.

Despite the growing controversy, Allen Adamson, cofounder of marketing consultancy Metaforce, believes that Adidas' delayed response was "understandable."



AP

Kanye West watches the first half of an NBA basketball game between the Washington Wizards and the Los Angeles Lakers in Los Angeles, on March 11, 2022.

"The positives are so substantial in terms of the audience it appeals to—younger, urban, trendsetters, the size of the business," Adamson said. "I'm sure they were hoping against hope that he would apologize and try to make this right."

Adidas doesn't break out Yeezy sales numbers, but the impact will be more severe than expected given that the brand has ended production of all Yeezy products and ceased royalty payments, according to Morningstar analyst David Swartz in a note published Tuesday.

Swartz projects overall Adidas revenues to reach $23.2 billion euros ($23.1 billion) this year, with the Yeezy brand generating 1.5 billion to 2 billion euros ($1.99 billion), or nearly 10% of the total. The pricy brand accounts for up to 15% of the company's net income, Swartz said.

Forbes estimated that Adidas accounted for $1.5 billion of Ye's net worth and without the deal, it will fall to $400 million, including his music catalog, real estate, cash and a stake in ex-wife Kim Kardashian's shapewear company Skims. Forbes said it will no longer include Ye on its list of billionaires, though the rapper has long insisted the magazine underestimates his wealth.

Ye has alienated even ardent fans in recent years. Those close to him, like Kardashian and her family, have ceased publicly defending him after the couple's bitter divorce and his unsettling posts about her recent relationship with comedian Pete Davidson.

Carl Lamarre, Billboard's deputy director of R&B/Hip Hop, said many Ye fans have been disappointed by him, but the implosion of his business endeavors was difficult to watch for those who admired the rapper's ability to reach new heights of success beyond hip-hop.

"This is someone who potentially laid down the blueprint for a lot of musicians coming up," Lamarre said. "When you see someone graduate to his level of superstardom and transcend into business, into fashion and touches that billionaire point, for our community, for hip-hop, for African Americans, that's very aspirational.

"But the same kids, even myself who were once super-fans, you try to defend him but every day he gives you a reason not to be able to," Lamarre added.

The rapper, who has won 24 Grammy Awards, has been steadily losing audience on the radio and even his streaming numbers have declined slightly over the last month. According to data provided by Luminate, an entertainment data and insights company whose data powers the Billboard music charts, his airplay audience has slipped from 8 million in the week ending Sept. 22, to 5.4 million in the week ending on Oct. 20. The popularity of his songs on streaming on demand also went down in the same period, from 97 million to 88.2 million, about a 9% drop.

Ye has earned more of a reputation for stirring up controversy since 2016, when he was hospitalized in Los Angeles because of what his team called stress and exhaustion. It was later revealed that he had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

He has suggested slavery was a choice and called the COVID-19 vaccine the "mark of the beast," among other comments. He also was criticized earlier this month during Paris Fashion Week for wearing a "White Lives Matter" T-shirt to the show and putting models in the same design. After he was suspended from Twitter and Facebook, Ye offered to buy Parler, a conservative social network with no gatekeeper.

The fashion, music and apparel world continued to distance themselves from Ye on Tuesday.

Depressed mom can't overcome grief about her empty nest

DEAR ABBY: I've been married for 22 years. Our son is leaving for Marine boot camp the day after his 18th birthday. He will be a third-generation Marine, and we are extremely proud of him. He will be stationed in California, several states away from us. Our soon-to-be 21-year-old daughter graduated from college, and we are also very proud of her. She lives an hour and a half away.

My problem is, although we see our daughter often, every time she goes home, I'm grief-stricken and break down. The idea of our son leaving has me grief-stricken, as well. I can't even look at him without breaking down and crying. I cry daily, sometimes for hours.

I'm severely depressed to the point that I sometimes don't make it to work. I have broken down at work as well. I'm heartbroken over becoming an empty nester. I'm crying just writing this. I haven't been this sad since my dear mom passed away a few years ago.

I know I have to get it together and this is not healthy. I also know how blessed I am to have children who are ambitious and healthy enough to fly on their own. I used to be particular about my appearance and no longer care about that. Is this normal?

TEARFUL IN MICHIGAN

DEAR TEARFUL: While it is normal to feel sadness when children leave the nest, the symptoms you have described are those of severe depression. I am glad you wrote, because it gives me the opportunity to advise you to talk to your physician about what's been going on. You may be grieving not only the fact that your children are leaving but also for the loss of your former life as a young wife and mother. There is medical and psychological help for the pain you are experiencing. A licensed therapist will help you regain your emotional balance. Please don't wait to reach out.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I rent a room from an elderly gentleman. His daughter also lives with him. I have paid to have the general area of the home cleaned for him because of his age. His daughter contributes nothing at all and leaves the kitchen a complete mess along with the rest of the home. He never says anything to her about it. She's basically lazy and sloppy and takes advantage of her father. Should I stop paying for the cleaning service because of her actions?

LENDING A HAND IN FLORIDA

DEAR LENDING: What's going on doesn't seem fair. Talk to your landlord and ask if the money you are paying for rent could be reduced by the amount you have been paying the cleaner. And if he refuses, consider finding another place to live.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: My friend wears a retainer and removes it at the dinner table, even in restaurants. How do I tell her that it attracts a lot of attention and is gross to witness?

CAN'T UNSEE IT IN NEW YORK

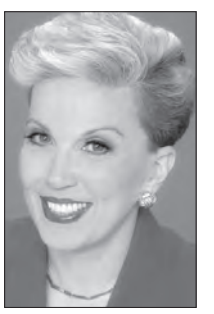
DEAR CAN'T UNSEE: Say it in plain English. Suggest she visit the ladies' room to remove her retainer and carry its container in her purse because when you see her do this it ruins your appetite.

■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

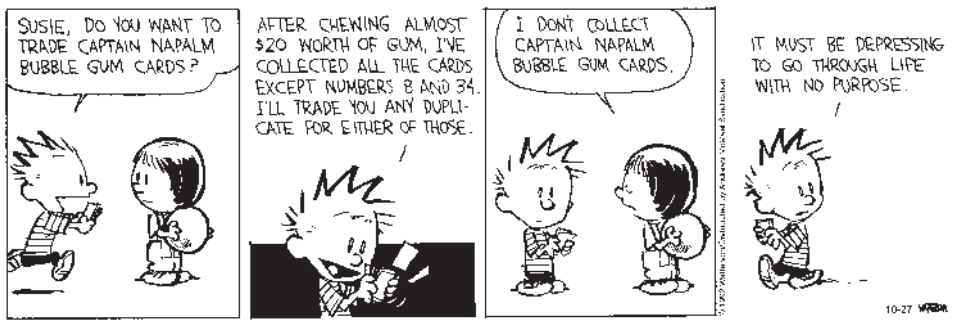


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


SUSIE, DO YOU WANT TO TRADE CAPTAIN NAPALM BUBBLE GUM CARDS?
AFTER CHEWING ALMOST $20 WORTH OF GUM, I'VE COLLECTED ALL THE CARDS EXCEPT NUMBERS 8 AND 34. I'LL TRADE YOU ANY DUPLICATE FOR EITHER OF THOSE.
I DON'T COLLECT CAPTAIN NAPALM BUBBLE GUM CARDS.
IT MUST BE DEPRESSING TO GO THROUGH LIFE WITH NO PURPOSE.
10-27

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

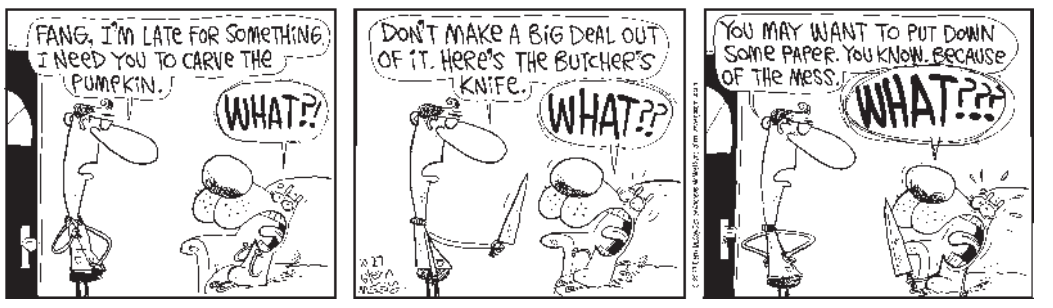
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HOW'S SCARY MOVIE WEEK?
WELL, IT'S MORE INTERESTING THAN SCARY.
TONIGHT, WE'RE WATCHING "LIZARDS WITH TELEKINESIS 3."
WOW. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO IT.
IT WAS MERYL STREEP'S FIRST FILM, SO THAT'S SOMETHING.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


FANG, I'M LATE FOR SOMETHING. I NEED YOU TO CARVE THE PUMPKIN.
WHAT?!
DON'T MAKE A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT. HERE'S THE BUTCHER'S KNIFE.
WHAT?!?
YOU MAY WANT TO PUT DOWN SOME PAPER. YOU KNOW, BECAUSE OF THE MESS.
WHAT?!?!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Taj Mahal city
5 Shark thriller
9 "Mic Drop" K-pop band
12 Jackie of "Rush Hour"
13 Skip
14 Tic-tac-toe win
15 Patio seating
17 Artist Yoko
18 Sri Lanka, once
19 Alan of "Argo"
21 "Perfect" singer Sheeran
22 At the — the day
24 Chest muscles, briefly
27 Chairman of China
28 Infant
31 Lass
32 Judge Lance
33 Rage
34 God of war
36 Scoot
37 Unruly kid
38 Fable writer
40 "Monopoly" corner
41 Boom type
43 Air travel fatigue
47 School org.
48 Pasta variety
51 King, in Cannes
52 Rotunda top
53 Pound of verse
54 " — outta here!"
55 Flag feature
56 Coral formation

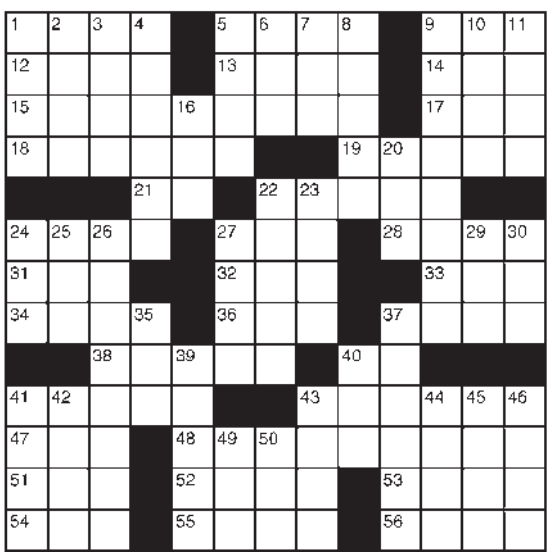
DOWN

1 Outlet letters
2 Clarified butter
3 Suggestive
4 Leg joints
5 Actor Travolta
6 Docs' org.
7 Nintendo console
8 Valuable violin
9 Publishers' expo
10 "Beloved" author Morrison
11 Anon
16 New England cape
20 Steal from
22 Devour
23 Lunch hour
24 Links org.
25 Corn unit
26 Ecologist's concern
27 Surrealist Joan
29 Bikini half
30 Still
35 Six, in Sicily
37 Fuss
39 A lot
40 Solidify
41 Agile
42 Oklahoma tribe
43 Scoff
44 Lounge about
45 Suffix for million
46 Tennis great Steffi
49 Word of denial
50 "Today" rival, briefly

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	A	N	G	■	T	A	J	■	G	W	E	N
E	T	A	L	■	H	M	O	■	C	H	I	O
C	A	P	A	C	I	T	Y	■	S	■	R	I
S	N	A	R	L	S	■	C	A	S	T	E	R
■	■	■	E	A	T	■	E	R	I	E	■	■
D	U	H	■	D	L	I	■	E	P	C	C	I
A	N	A	T	■	E	T	S	■	S	A	R	I
S	O	N	A	R	■	S	T	P	■	P	E	A
■	■	D	R	E	I	■	A	R	A	■	■	■
T	R	I	T	O	N	■	M	O	R	A	L	E
B	O	C	A	■	C	A	F	S	U	L	E	S
S	T	A	P	■	A	M	E	■	B	L	I	P
P	E	P	S	■	N	O	D	■	A	S	S	N

Yesterday's answer 10-27



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Osbourne, 38; Patrick Fugit, 40; Peter Firth, 69; John Cleese, 83.

Happy Birthday: Push forward with a positive attitude, and you'll reach your destination and have plenty of memories to share. Test your skills, and you'll discover a way to use your attributes enjoyably. Make personal gain, self-improvement and your relationships with others the main focuses. Trust your instincts and follow through. Your numbers are 5, 12, 23, 29, 31, 36, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Remain calm and offer the truth. How you conduct yourself in front of others will determine how they treat you. Dazzle everyone with your insight, experience and knowledge; progress will follow. Reuniting with someone will give you the confidence to make a move. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Gather the facts before you promise to do something. Protect against being taken for granted or used by someone with questionable motives. Address situations that need to be tweaked to be beneficial. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* What you put out, you'll get back. Get involved in things that matter to you. How you reach out to others and implement improvements will lead to experience, knowledge and a better environment. Speak up and put your plans in motion. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Don't fall short of what others expect of you. Keeping up, regardless of emotional turmoil, will motivate others to pitch in and help. Don't put pressure on your bank account. Taking on unnecessary debt for someone else's benefit will drag you down. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Be a reasonable observer. Don't get involved in other people's drama. Stick to what you know, and keep your thoughts to yourself. Don't let changes unfolding around you disrupt your plans. Finish what you start and stay within budget. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A change of scenery will spark your imagination and help you adjust to what's no longer working for you. Take the road that encourages you to make your life more enjoyable. Learn new skills, socialize more or focus on personal growth. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Live to learn. An open mind will take you on a journey that will encourage you to tie up loose ends and head in a direction that excites you. Do your prep work and present what you have to offer with confidence. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Address domestic situations and set a budget to cover any expenses required for improvements. Uncertainty regarding a relationship with someone will require time and patience. An honest assessment and conversation will help you understand what's needed. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Stick to what's comfortable. Deal with domestic issues with optimism. Be accommodating, offer incentives and get what you want in return. Pay attention to detail and live up to your promises. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Attending a reunion, reaching out to an expert for help or finding a way to make your dollar stretch will encourage better days ahead. Run a tight ship at home, and prosperity will follow. Personal gain is within reach. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Question any changes around you. Don't sign up for something that compromises you mentally, emotionally or financially. Focus on health and well-being by starting a fitness routine that makes you look and feel your best. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take a step back, double-check facts and carry on without worry. Having everything in order will show you can handle whatever comes your way. Refuse to fold under pressure. Don't donate to anything that makes you feel uncomfortable. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, physical and confident. You are disciplined and thorough.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4					8	2	
5				4	1	6		
							5	
6		8			4			
		2		9		3		
			6			5		8
	1							
		7	2	3				6
	8	5					7	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/27

Sudoku is a number -placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the number s 1 to 9 in the em pty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number onl y once. The difficulty level of the Concep tis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesturday Answer

9	8	6	5	4	1	7	3	2
4	7	1	9	2	3	6	8	5
2	3	5	8	7	6	1	9	4
7	9	3	2	8	4	5	1	6
1	2	8	6	3	5	4	7	9
6	5	4	7	1	9	8	2	3
5	4	2	1	9	8	3	6	7
8	6	9	3	5	7	2	4	1
3	1	7	4	6	2	9	5	8

Difficulty Level ★★★

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

FOLLOWING PROTOCOL Solution: 5 letters

D	N	M	E	T	S	Y	S	Ⓜ	B	R	E	A	C	H
D	I	I	R	E	C	O	Ⓡ	D	Y	L	P	M	O	C
R	O	P	A	I	Y	Ⓔ	D	N	L	E	L	C	Y	C
E	A	C	L	T	Ⓣ	R	A	D	A	A	T	L	L	R
S	P	O	U	O	N	P	A	A	W	R	U	O	E	T
P	P	C	O	M	M	I	T	T	E	D	B	N	G	N
E	R	I	O	O	E	A	A	A	I	E	U	U	A	E
C	O	O	C	M	C	N	T	M	Y	L	S	S	L	M
T	A	L	C	T	P	Y	T	I	E	D	I	B	A	E
E	C	O	I	E	P	L	A	N	C	O	N	M	C	G
S	H	O	C	O	D	E	E	L	S	H	E	T	I	A
T	N	H	S	E	L	U	R	T	T	T	S	F	D	N
I	E	C	I	T	C	A	R	P	E	E	S	A	E	A
N	S	S	E	C	O	R	P	E	P	M	L	R	M	M
G	U	I	D	E	L	I	N	E	S	R	E	D	R	O

© 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 10/27

Abide, Action, Approach, Breach, Business, Bylaw, Code, Committed, Company, Complete, Comply, Cycle, Data, Diplomatic, Document, Draft, Duly, Guidelines, Legal, Maintain, Management, Manual, Medical, Method, Military, Obey, Onus, Orders, Plan, Policy, Practice, Procedure, Process, Record, Respect, Rules, School, Steps, System, Term, Testing, Treaty

Yesterday's Answer: Buttermilk

The NEW **Treasury 50** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Mahomes keeps turning double-digit deficits into wins

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—The most precarious lead in the NFL these days might be a double-digit one over Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs.

Mahomes engineered his 12th comeback from a deficit of at least 10 points in the past four seasons on Sunday when the Chiefs rallied for a 44-23 victory over the San Francisco 49ers after falling behind 10-0 in the first quarter.

The Chiefs have won 12 of 17 games since the start of 2019 with Mahomes at quarterback after falling behind by at least 10 points, including all three games in the 2019 postseason.

Kansas City is just as likely to win by double-digits after facing the early deficit like they did against the Niners as the Chiefs are to lose the game.

It's a far cry from the rest of the NFL. While the Chiefs have a .706 winning percentage in these scenarios, the rest of the league has a mark of just .154. No other QB who has faced at least three double-digit deficits has won even half, with Drew Brees' 6-7 mark the second best.

In fact, the only other QB besides Mahomes to win more than 70% of his starts since 2019 is Aaron Rodgers, who has a .733 winning percentage in all starts.

AP

Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) passes against the San Francisco 49ers during the first half of an NFL football game in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022.

Mahomes reached a few more milestones on Sunday when he won for the 55th time, tying Hall of Famer Ken Stabler for the most in a QB's first 70 starts in the Super Bowl era. Otto Graham is the only quarterback in NFL history with more with 56.

Mahomes also had his eighth career game with at least 400 yards passing and at least three TDs. Only Brees (12), Peyton Manning (11), Dan Marino (11) and Tom Brady (8) have more. Those QBs have all started at least 242 games, while Mahomes has only 70.

STRUGGLING STARS

Two of the most accomplished quarterbacks in NFL history are off to rough starts with Tom Brady and Aaron Rodgers both at 3-4 after back-to-back losses.

This marked the second time that Brady and Rodgers both lost in consecutive weeks with the only other coming in the final two weeks of the 2015 season.

Rodgers has a losing record through seven games for the first time as a starter and Brady's only previous losing record at this juncture came in 2002 — the only healthy season that he failed to make the playoffs.

Their 19 combined TD passes are their fewest at this point in a season when both started, the 19.4 points per game average for their teams are more than six points lower than the previous low of 26 points per game through seven games in 2013, and their 93.7 passer rating is the lowest at this point since 2013 when it was 90.6.

COMEBACK KIDS

The surprising New York Giants had their fifth second-half comeback of the season so far, rallying for a 23-17 win over Jacksonville to improve to 6-1.

The Giants joined the 2015 Falcons and 2007 Titans as the only teams to win at least five of their first seven games after trailing in the second half.

New York also became the first team since the 2016 Lions to win at least four of their first seven games when trailing in the fourth quarter.

The four wins so far this season for the Giants when trailing in the fourth quarter are more than they had in the previous five seasons combined when they went 3-58 in games they trailed in the fourth quarter.

The Giants' success has helped the NFC East post a 20-7 (.741) combined record for the best for any division through seven weeks since the merger. The previous best winning percentage was .714 for the 1984 AFC West.

ROOKIE WATCH

Pittsburgh rookie quarterback Kenny Pickett is off to a rough start to his career.

Pickett has thrown seven interceptions and only two touchdown passes in his first four career games. The only other QB since 1990 with at least seven interceptions and two or fewer TD passes in his first four games was Ryan Leaf, who had eight interceptions and one TD pass in his first four games in 1998.

FAMILY AFFAIR

The trade that sent Christian McCaffrey to the San Francisco 49ers linked the McCaffrey and Shanahan families once again.

When McCaffrey took the field Sunday for coach Kyle Shanahan's 49ers it marked the fourth instance of a father-son duo coaching a father-son duo in NFL history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Christian's older brother, Max, already played for Kyle Shanahan in 2018 after their father, Ed, played for Mike Shanahan from 1995-03 in Denver

The other times it happened came with coaches Bum and Wade Phillips. Rob Carpenter played for Bum Phillips and Bobby Carpenter playing for Wade Phillips, while Ted Washington Sr. played for Bum Phillips and Ted Washington Jr. played for Wade Phillips.

Under Dan Snyder, Washington sank from NFL elite to also-ran

LANDOVER, Md. (AP)—Super Bowl-winning defensive end Fred Stokes remembers what he heard from other players in 1989 when he left the Los Angeles Rams as a free agent to join the NFL team based in the nation's capital.

"When I got here," Stokes said, "the guys all told me, 'We're all about winning.' Washington and winning went together."

This was back when D.C.'s football franchise was in the midst of making the postseason eight times in 11 years, a run of success that featured four Super Bowl appearances and three championships. Back when sellouts and bouncing stands at old home RFK Stadium were a given. When offensive innovator Joe Gibbs called the shots as a head coach destined for induction at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. And, of most significance considering the current climate, when Jack Kent Cooke was the owner of a club that would be sold by his estate to Daniel Snyder a decade later, a transaction that led to a whole lot of losing — only four teams have a lower winning percentage since 1999; only two have fewer playoff wins — and whirl of misconduct that has not abated.

So what does Stokes see nowadays when he looks at what has become of what are now known as the Commanders, following the discarding of an offensive name amid a national reckoning about racism in 2020 — although Snyder's wife, Tanya, and the team president, Jason Wright, seemed to forget about that change on Sunday, when both gave shoutouts to the old moniker at a "homecoming" rally outside the stadium featuring dozens of former players?

"A house without a proper foundation," Stokes said. "You can't have crown molding, you can't have nice countertops, you can't have hardwood floors, without a foundation. When I came here, there was a foundation. That's missing."

Wearing on his right hand the gold ring earned via a Super Bowl victory under Gibbs in January 1992, following a season in which Stokes was second on Washington with 6 1/2 sacks, he continued: "What's that expression? 'It takes a village to raise a child.' Well, it takes an organization to win a Super Bowl, not just coaches and players."

Under Snyder, the approach has varied over the years.

Resurrecting the careers of past winners such as Gibbs and Mike Shanahan, who never came close to equaling their earlier coaching resumes. Hiring someone few others considered head coaching material in Jim Zorn, then adding an out-of-football play caller whose most recent job had been as a bingo caller (Sherman Lewis). Bringing aboard right-hand men who never panned out, such as Vinny Cerrato and Bruce Allen. Free agency has been all over the place, from wild overspending to against-the-rules accounting to the underspending of last offseason. Drafting often has been a disaster.

All of that is to say nothing of the general dysfunction and, worse, the allegations of sexual harassment and financial impropriety that led to multiple ongoing investigations of Snyder — by the league, by Congress, by D.C.'s attorney general — and prompted Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay to say a week ago that there is "merit to remove" Snyder. He already was fined $10 million and told to cede day-to-day operations of the club to Tanya for several months by the NFL last year after a previous inquiry into widespread sexual harassment and mistreatment of women at the team.

Attendance is at the bottom of the league, but some of the spectators on hand Sunday let their feelings be known — during a victory, no less, by a score of 23-21 against four-time NFL MVP Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers that improved last-place Washington's record to 3-4 this season — by booing and then chanting "Sell the team!" after Tanya Snyder was part of a video about breast cancer awareness that played on the videoboard.

Hardly the first time that cry has been heard at the dilapidated arena in Landover, Maryland. As it is, the stands were loaded with Green Bay supporters; for every No. 17 Doug Williams or No. 21 Sean Taylor or No. 28 Darrell Green or No. 89 Santana Moss burgundy-and-gold jersey, there was a No. 12 Aaron Rodgers or No. 4 Brett Favre or No. 52 Clay Matthews or No. 87 Jordy Nelson green-and-yellow shirt.

"I just hate seeing a lot of Packers fans here today," said Raleigh McKenzie, the starting left guard for Washington's champs in two Super Bowls (and, as it happens, a player for Green Bay in the final two years of a career that lasted from 1985 to 2000).

Few NFL organizations have managed to lose the way Washington has since Snyder was part of a group that purchased the team for a then-record $800 million in 1999, when he vowed: "Our commitment is to bring winning football back to Washington."

So much for that.

In the 23 seasons completed since that transaction, the club has won a grand total of two playoff games.

Yes, two. Most recently in 2005.

Only two of the NFL's 32 clubs own a smaller collection of postseason victories in that span: The Detroit Lions have zero; the Cleveland Browns have one.

"It does get frustrating. I hear fans say, 'Oh, I remember when ... ," said Virgil Seay, a wideout for Washington in the early 1980s. "They want to be with you through thick and thin, but they need something to cheer about."

Heading into its next game, at Irsay's Colts on Sunday, Washington's winning percentage of .424 since the start of the 1999 season — based on a regular-season record of 159-216-1 that does not include a single campaign of more than 10 victories — is better than just four clubs: Cleveland (.326), Detroit (.352), Jacksonville (.391) and Las Vegas (.408).

There is no question that since Snyder took charge, Washington has been among the league's least-competitive outfits, the dregs of the dregs, a far cry from what once was.

Its 18 playoff wins from the AFL-NFL merger in 1970 through the 1998 season were outdone by only three teams: Dallas (31), San Francisco (24) and Pittsburgh (21). Those are also the only franchises that accumulated more Super Bowl triumphs than Washington's three during that stretch — which came after two NFL championships in 1937 and 1942. Perhaps it was just a slip of the tongue, but also happened to be accurate, when Tanya Snyder made mention of the 90-year-old franchise's "seven decades of fantastic football" while addressing the folks gathered in Legends Plaza before Sunday's game.

"We kind of spoiled the fans here," McKenzie said. "I'm sure they think, 'Hey, that was special.' I just hope we get it back."

Suns push past Warriors for 134-105 win, Thompson ejected

PHOENIX (AP)—The technical fouls were piling high in the third quarter. So was Devin Booker's point total and the Phoenix Suns' lead.

By the time the whistles finally stopped, the Suns were well on their way to 134-105 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Tuesday night in a game that featured Klay Thompson's first career ejection and seven technical fouls.

Booker scored 34 points and Deandre Ayton added 16 points and 14 rebounds.

"I thought emotionally, we kept it together when it was starting to get a little squirrelly," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "We were able to make enough plays during that time where we could get back to solid."

Both teams lost their cool at various times during the third quarter, with all of the technical fouls called in less than six minutes. Thompson received two quick technicals and was ejected after having words with Booker, who also received a technical because of the exchange.

At one point during the argument, Thompson held up four fingers to signify the four championships the Warriors have won over the past decade. Those rings didn't help on Tuesday. The veteran guard finished with two points on 1-for-8 shooting, including 0 of 5 from 3-point range.

AP

Golden State Warriors guard Klay Thompson drives past Phoenix Suns forward Mikal Bridges (25) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022, in Phoenix.

It was the five-time All-Star's first career ejection in 651 regular season games.

"I love Klay Thompson, I have for a really long time," Booker said. "But that doesn't excuse us from being competitive and talking to each other. I've always admired his game, how he plays on both sides of the ball, and obviously the rings speak for themselves.

"But I'm going to bring it every time."

Golden State's Draymond Green and coach Steve Kerr, along with Phoenix players Chris Paul and Ayton also were whistled for technicals for various outbursts in the third, with most of that ire directed at the officials.

Said Green: "I'm not one to get into what guys are taking about on the floor. There was chirping on both ends."

Thompson didn't speak with the media following the game.

In the midst of the third-quarter chaos, the Suns were playing well and their lead which grew to 19 points by the end of the quarter. Without Thompson, the defending NBA champs were never able to mount a rally and the Suns kept a comfortable lead throughout the fourth.

Booker shot 10 of 19 from the field and 11 of 14 on free throws. The two-time All-Star added seven assists.

Steph Curry led the Warriors with 21 points. Jordan Poole scored 17 off the bench. Green added 14 points, eight rebounds and five assists. Kerr said Thompson simply got frustrated, which led to the ejection.

"His shot wasn't going," Kerr said. "Some decent looks early didn't go and I thought he got a little frustrated. I love the competitiveness. Obviously, he took it too far with the ejection, but I love the fire. Klay is an incredible competitor. We need his energy."

Phoenix used a 13-0 run midway through the first to take a 37-29 lead by the end of the quarter. Paul made a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer to give the Suns a 72-66 lead at the break.

Booker scored 16 points in the first half while Ayton had 12 points and 11 rebounds. Poole led the Warriors with 14 first-half points.

The Suns improved to 3-1 for the season while the Warriors fell to 2-2.

"Once we got down, I thought we started jacking shots," Kerr said. "We stopped moving the ball in the second half. Same thing happened against Sacramento the other night. We kind of lost our way."

Pelicans 113, Mavericks111

In New Orleans, Trey Murphy III scored 22 points and short-handed New Orleans overcame Luka Doncic's latest prolific performance to beat Dallas.

The Pelicans were missing two of their top three scorers in Brandon Ingram (concussion protocol) and Zion Williamson (hip bruise), as well as a third starter, Herb Jones (hyperextended knee), who is their top defensive player.

But the available Pelicans responded with an all-hands-on-deck effort in which eight players reached double figures in scoring.

That included first-round draft pick Dyson Daniels, who scored his first career points in the second quarter and finished with 11 in 22 minutes.

Murphy hit all eight shots he took, including four 3-pointers. Naji Marshall scored 15 points in a spot start. CJ McCollum had 14 points and 11 assists.

Doncic scored 37 to go with 11 rebounds and seven assists, but his 3-point attempt at the final horn bounced off the front rim.

Wizards 120, Pistons 99

In Washington, Kyle Kuzma scored 25 points and Washington overcame Bradley Beal's back issues to beat Detroit.

Beal was limited to 21:49 because of back tightness, although he was able to return late in the third quarter after missing the entire second. The Wizards actually broke the game open without him and cruised to a lopsided victory.

Kristaps Porzingis scored 20 points, Will Barton contributed 16 and Beal was able to finish with 13.

Bojan Bogdanovic led the Pistons with 25 points and Cade Cunningham added 19.

Thunder 108, Clippers 94

In Oklahoma City, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 33 points and Oklahoma City defeated the short-handed Los Angeles Clippers for its first win of the season.

Gilgeous-Alexander played after sitting out Sunday against Minnesota with a bruised left hip. Against the Clippers, he made 11 of 22 field goals and 9 of 9 free throws and had eight assists.

The Clippers were without their two biggest stars. Kawhi Leonard sat out to rest his right knee and Paul George missed the game with an illness. Oklahoma City took advantage by holding the Clippers to 42% shooting.

Luke Kennard scored 15 points and Ivica Zubac had 10 points and 14 rebounds for the Clippers.

Tre Mann scored 16 of his 25 points in the first half for Oklahoma City, which pulled away for good with a 21-0 run in the third quarter behind Gilgeous-Alexander.

Analysis: Joe Dumars was made for his new role at the NBA

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

He played with the Bad Boys, those Detroit Pistons teams that were physical, aggressive and intimidating. And even in those rough-and-tumble times, he wound up becoming the first recipient of the NBA's sportsmanship award — now called the Joe Dumars Trophy.

He's now tasked with ensuring that players don't act like his old teammates often did. Dumars became Executive Vice President and Head of Basketball Operations for the NBA in May, making him a major decider in all things related to player discipline for on-court actions.

His first big decisions related to player discipline came earlier this week, when the NBA suspended Miami Heat teammates Caleb Martin and Nikola Jovic for their roles in a scuffle during a game against the Toronto Raptors.

"You want to do something where you really feel like you're contributing," Dumars said. "Basically, this is the only place I haven't contributed to in this game."

At 59, with two championships as a player, another as an executive and a lifetime within the game, he doesn't have to be working. He could be spending his days playing and watching tennis, the sport he started playing as a 10-year-old and has loved ever since. Instead, he's moved to New York, with office views from a high-rise not far from Rockefeller Center and Radio City Music Hall, smack in the middle of Manhattan.

"I tell people that we are stewards of the game," Dumars said. "And people go, 'What does that mean?' Well, we make sure that the trains are taking off on time. We make sure that the game stays clean. We make sure that there's any time there's any disruption or things that should not be, we are here to clean this up and make sure we are presenting a great product and presenting it the right way."

When an altercation happens like the one Saturday in Miami, the players involved are asked to consent to an interview with league officials, video is reviewed, and Dumars and other top executives decide the best course of action.

It's reasonable to think this call by Dumars and his team was easy: Martin drove Toronto's Christian Koloko into some baseline seats — thankfully unoccupied at the time — and Jovic, even though he didn't really appear to do much to add fuel to the fire, clearly left the bench area and therefore broke one of the NBA's absolute no-no's.

Martin missed Monday's game against the Raptors and will lose roughly $45,000 in salary.

"I definitely don't disagree with it," a contrite Martin, who reached out to Koloko to apologize and promised him that he'd be picking up a future dinner check.

Jovic also had to sit out Monday, meaning the Heat rookie has now been suspended for more games (one) than he has played (zero).

What happened Saturday could have been much worse, since Martin, Koloko and about a dozen other people all wound up where fans were. Martin ended up next to a woman in the second row; her halftime acquisition of a large popcorn, somehow, was not spilled.

But things didn't escalate, Dumars acted swiftly, and case closed.

Not everything has been that easy for the league in recent weeks — Phoenix owner Robert Sarver will likely sell his NBA and WNBA franchises before his one-year suspension for boorish behavior ends, Boston coach Ime Udoka will miss this entire season because of an inappropriate workplace relationship, Golden State had to deal with Draymond Green punching teammate Jordan Poole in practice and video of that exchange leaking, and Detroit assistant general manager Rob Murphy was placed on leave following allegations of misconduct made by a female former team employee.

Sarver was suspended by NBA Commissioner Adam Silver. The other incidents have been handled at the team level. On-court matters, those rise to Dumars' desk high above Manhattan.

"I'm super excited to work with him, and to learn from him, and to collaborate with him," said Monty McCutchen, the NBA vice president overseeing referee operations. "The best collaborations are collaborations that both people, both groups, both departments benefit from. And in this short time, Joe has really proven to be a collaborator and to be a builder of relationships. I'm excited about what that means for the future."

Dumars knows what it's like to be on the receiving end of the player-discipline side of stories. He might not have had the full "Bad Boy" reputation earned by Pistons teammates like Bill Laimbeer, Dennis Rodman, Rick Mahorn, Isiah Thomas and John Salley. But he certainly wasn't immune to scuffles; he was fined twice in December 1990 alone for dust-ups with twin brothers Harvey and Horace Grant, the second of those coming in a Christmas game. And as a Pistons executive, he was once fined $500,000 for leaking memos to a reporter.

He thinks having been on all sides of the NBA will only help him in this new gig.

"If I didn't have the career I had, maybe my mentality would be different," Dumars said. "But when you've done stuff at the highest level in this business, that's kind of where you want to live."

Zombie run's fastest runners get medals

MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Run Saipan gave the top runners of its staggered Beach Road 5K and impromptu zombie run their medals last Monday near the start line of last Friday's race.

Division 1 winners were led by Paul Khang, who finished the race in 25:51. CNMI national triathlete Leo Wania and Kamron Pangelinan came second in third after crossing the finish line in 26:41 and 28:47, respectively.

For the women in the group, Lovel Spaeth and Leilani Ruszala finished in a dead heat (26:42) with Kathy Ruszala coming in third (27:05).

Caleb Cui paced Division 2 winners with his time of 21:44 followed by Adam Walsh's 24:26 and Frank "The Crank" Camacho's 24:33.

Rosemarie Chisato topped the women in the group with a time of 25:05, followed by Terra Allen (25:38) and Ann Bang (26:44).

Division 3 winner was Samuel Zhu who clocked in at 19:35 with Pony Tang and Rex Pixley in his coattails with times of 19:37 and 19:39, respectively.

Division 1 runners were those with a 5K time of 27 minutes and higher. Division 2 runners are those with a 5K time between 22 minutes and 26:59, while runners in Division 3 are runners with a 5K time between 17 minutes and 21:59.

Ultimate Fighting Championship veteran Frank "The Crank" Camacho said he got a kick out of the surprise zombie run.

"The zombie run was a crazy concept. Absolutely loved it. I've never had to run a 5K with that much urgency. Right before the finish line I heard one of the zombies right behind me. They are super freakin' fast!"

The Fit To Lead ambassador also joked that he initially had thoughts of making his best Rick Grimes impersonation to fight back against the zombies.

"I asked Ed (Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr.) if I can 'defend myself' from the zombies with some UFC techniques. It was so fun! I need to do more of these…" he said.

Kathy Ruszala, who like Wania represented the CNMI in triathlon in the 2022 Pacific Mini Games, said all she could think of during the run was a scene from the Hollywood blockbuster *World War Z*.

"I was trying to keep pace with little fast legs (Leilani and Lovel) as well as ensure that we didn't get infected. I love theme runs but all I could think of was the scene in World War Z where the zombie stampede took over the city while they avoided an 'unhealthy' host body. I figured if they caught up, I'd play dead," she said.

Dan Dan Middle School teacher Simon Necesito felt glad to be part of the club's first-ever zombie run.

"The zombie run was a new concept that we tried for the first time. I've never felt like I wanted to run for my life ever. Whenever I did my 5K runs, this year I usually hit 31:00 or 35:00. With this year's PR, I swear I wanted to cry. I've made it a goal this year to finish under 30 minutes. Seeing my time now has shocked me because I never thought I would get to this point. I'm glad we got to do this event because it's a new spin off of our usual 5K runs!" he said.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of Run Saipan's staggered Beach Road 5K that turned into an impromptu zombie run show off their medals during the awards ceremony along the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Pathway in Oleai last Monday. Rightmost is Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr. and his son Sasha.

Free tennis lessons return at AMP

MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Malika Miyawaki and her tennis buddies are restarting free tennis lessons beginning this Saturday, Oct. 29, at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

The tennis clinics are open for children who have never played tennis and for those under 12 who were in the first and second classes of CNMI national coach Jeff Race's Aces Tennis Academy.

"We want to do this because there has been a lack of opportunities to learn tennis on Saipan due to limited court availability. Therefore, although I can't physically be there to run the free tennis clinic, some amazing high school students have volunteered to coach!" said Miyawaki in a post on social media.

The schedule for first-time players is from 10am to 11am, while those in Race's first and second class is from 11am to 12pm.

The Emory University students and QuestBridge Scholarship beneficiary added that the clinic has rackets to lend children who have never played tennis before.

They also plan to give away a racket to participants who attend the free clinic a certain number of times. She said more details will be shared later.

The free tennis lessons will happen every Saturday at the AMP tennis courts except when there is a tennis tournament, a holiday, or bad weather.

"Everyone is welcome and I hope many kids can join because sports is a great way to meet new people and have fun, especially on a small island," said the Saipan International School alumnae.

"Feel free to message or email me if you have any questions! You can also contact any of the high school volunteers for any questions. Lastly, please be respectful to the volunteers because it is the first time coaching for some of them and coaching is never easy," she added.

Miyawaki can be reached via malikasaipan@gmail.com or 929-563-8653, while the rest of the high school volunteers, and their contact information are Serin Chung (serin.c.2006@gmail.com, 670-788-7400), Minsoo Kwon (Minsoo.kwon1115@gmail.com, 670-788-1318), Hye Jin Elliot (hyejinelliott@gmail.com, 670-783-7638), Hoo Wang (hoowang0229@gmail.com, 670-783-0255), Irin Chung (irin.c.2008@gmail.com, 670-789-7300), Savita Sikkel (savitassikkel@gmail.com, 670-285-0454), Anna Kwon (jieunkwon080802@gmail.com, 670-785-8867), Wataru Kadokura (w.kadokura@gmail.com, 670-484-3070), June Yu (Juneyukumada@gmail.com, 670-484-0088), and Cody Shimizu (Codyshimizu670@gmail.com, 670-286-0000).

Miyawaki

UNINTERRUPTED

From Page 36

Marianas Sports Association added that "more importantly, I thank the entire CNMI—Rota, Tinian public schools, private schools—just a great big thank you for coming back to sport. Great to have it going on, great to have sports in so many different levels for every kid…and the support of the federations—NMSA and all of its federation memberships—is what makes us able to pull this stuff off. It really is that capacity that's built in the community of sport, and I'm just so thankful."

The girls high school volleyball season just ended with Grace Christian Academy sweeping to its sixth championship; prior to that, Agape Christian School dominated the high school boys and both middle school cross country titles, Saipan International School swept the elementary school and high school cross country divisions; William S. Reyes Elementary School won the elementary school soccer championship; Tanapag Middle School won the middle school soccer championships; and Francisco M. Sablan Middle School won the middle school girls basketball championship.

The next slew of school sports will be the co-ed middle school badminton, girls high school basketball, boys high school soccer, and co-ed elementary school basketball.

Co-ed elementary soccer is under the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, the all schools cross country is under the Northern Marianas Athletics, the girls high school volleyball is under the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association, and the co-ed middle school badminton is under the Northern Marianas Badminton Association.

With the bulk of sports being held in the sweltering heat of Marianas High School Gymnasium due to no air-conditioning yet post-Super Typhoon Yutu, Gross was asked when the gym is able to have a reprieve from the heat and he said, "the facilities themselves, we're continuing to work through some FEMA recovery, as well as some community benefit projects that we have going on. It's just the bureaucracy of things is slow. And we're hopeful that we will have our air conditioners on sometime, quite possibly by Thanksgiving. And so that'll give us a little bit of reprieve from the heat and the hot conditions in the gym. But it's a constant struggle, it's a difficult environment. With the storms we have had and the damage that all of our sporting facilities have taken, it's a slow recovery."

He also said that they are also hopeful that they will be able to use the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in November to host some of the school sports there so as to give MHS back some time in their home gym.

"But that's about all I can say about that stuff is we're working through it and we're very hopeful… Even though it's hot and miserable, people keep coming and the kids keep coming. And so I think they're kind of over it and it's a resilient people throughout the CNMI to come out and continue putting themselves in these hot conditions, but it's been really fun doing it," he said.

SHAIKH

From Page 36

the ground, namely the participation of NMIFA teams in the AFC's age-group events.

"NMIFA has purposefully used the AFC's development funds in line with their aims to improve the game, and their recent participation in the AFC U17 Asian Cup qualifying stages is great news," Shaikh Salman remarked.

"The participation of the Northern Mariana Islands U17 squad tangibly reflects the impact of the AFC's development programs and provides comfort to us that our member associations are on the right track, generating optimism for a bright future."

Tan discussed the NMIFA's future intentions, including how they hope to work closely with Asian football's governing body to raise the bar by involving all segments of the people in order to popularize the game.

The NMIFA president thanked Shaikh Salman for helping their passage to full membership and expressed his gratitude for the AFC's long-term commitment to the Northern Mariana Islands football future. ***(AFC)***

SIS

From Page 36

one game and accumulating 15 points per opponent for a total of 30 points—the most points a single team can get.

In Bracket 2 of the league, the SIS Geckos made light work of Tanapag Middle School Tatagas, sweeping them in the boys doubles, girls singles, boys singles, girls doubles, and mixed doubles.

In all three matches of one game, the Geckos received 3 points in each of the five categories to sweep the competition with a total of 15 points.

After their game against the Tatagas, they went on to face their spring league finals rival, Hopwood Middle School 2, and blew them out of the water as well, defeating them in all five categories, garnering 3 points in each for a total of 15 points.

In the same bracket, the SCS Guardians swept their competition, nailing all matches with 3 points for a total of 15 points against their first opponent Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. High School Bucks.

Their last game against Mount Carmel School Knights, they sang the same old song as they swept them for an additional 15 points, for 30 points total.

In Bracket 1, Tinian Jr. High School Stallions made their way to Saipan and dominated the two schools they faced, with a total of 30 points after defeating Dan-Dan Middle School Tottots and ChaCha Oceanview Middle School Lancherus. DMS and ChaCha MS currently have no wins.

In other results, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School Napu Riders split both games, winning all five categories against Chacha MS, 15-0, and losing against Agape Christian School Torchbearers, 6-9; ACS went on to win again against HMS 1, 13-2; HMS 1 went on to win against DMS in a sweep of 15 points; TMS split their games, losing to SIS and winning against MCS, 15-0; MCS currently has no wins; HMS 2 split their games with a win against Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. High School and a loss against SIS.

The next round-robin games are scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 5, with another match up of six schools. The finals are scheduled for Nov. 12.

Suns push past Warriors for 134-105 win, Thompson ejected

PAGE 33

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Zombie run's f astest runners get medals

PAGE 35

Shaikh Salman reaffirms support to NMIFA

AFC

In this combo photo, Asian Football Confederation president Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, left, shakes hands with Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan after presenting Tan a pennant during the latter's visit at the AFC Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last Tuesday. Tan, right photo, presents Shaikh Salman an island shirt.

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia—Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, president of the Asian Football Confederation, met with Jerry Tan, president of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, here in Malaysia's capital last Tuesday, Oct. 25.

After their membership application was granted by the 30th AFC Congress in December 2020, NMIFA became the newest member of the AFC and the Asian football family, bringing the AFC's membership to a total of 47, distributed over the vast continent.

However, even before NMIFA was given full membership, they were working closely with the AFC as an associate member to improve the standards of football on the islands under the leadership of Tan, which the AFC president emphasized.

"NMIFA technically joined the AFC as a full member just recently, but football is well-entrenched and has continued to develop in popularity and participation in Northern Mariana Islands, owing mostly to the efforts of president Tan and his team," Shaikh Salman added.

The AFC president also mentioned the practical assistance offered by the AFC's development funds to the NMIFA and how it was translating into outcomes on

See SHAIKH on Page 35

'Uninterrupted' school sports season so far

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nick Gross, Public School System Student Support Services Athletic Program director, talks during the opening day of badminton competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

With things going back to normal, school sports is now back to the forefront of afterschool and weekend activities for school children, as the 2022-2023 interscholastic sports season is uninterrupted so far—a long awaited reprieve from the past couple of years of missed athletic opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The interscholastic sports 2022-2023 season kicked off last September with girls high school volleyball, followed by all schools cross-country, co-ed elementary school and middle school soccer, and middle school girls basketball.

Nick Gross, Public School System Student Support Services Athletic Program director, told *Saipan Tribune* that so far, "it's a fantastic season—recovering from the pandemic and getting back on track and getting our sports going. It's just great to have a season that runs uninterrupted.

The newly appointed ex-officio member of the Northern

See UNINTERRUPTED' on Page 35

SIS, SCS, Tinian Jr. complete sweeps in MS badminton

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Defending co-ed middle school division badminton champion Saipan International School opened its campaign in the first round-robin game day of the TakeCare Interscholastic Badminton League with a sweep of their competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Saipan Community School and Tinian Jr. High School also mirrored the Geckos' success in Day 1 of competition.

All three schools swept each of their two opponents in five categories after garnering the full 3 points in

See SIS on Page 35

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Tinian Jr. High School badminton player in action during their first round-robin game in the TakeCare Interscholastic Badminton League last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.